# OKLAHOMA TODAY

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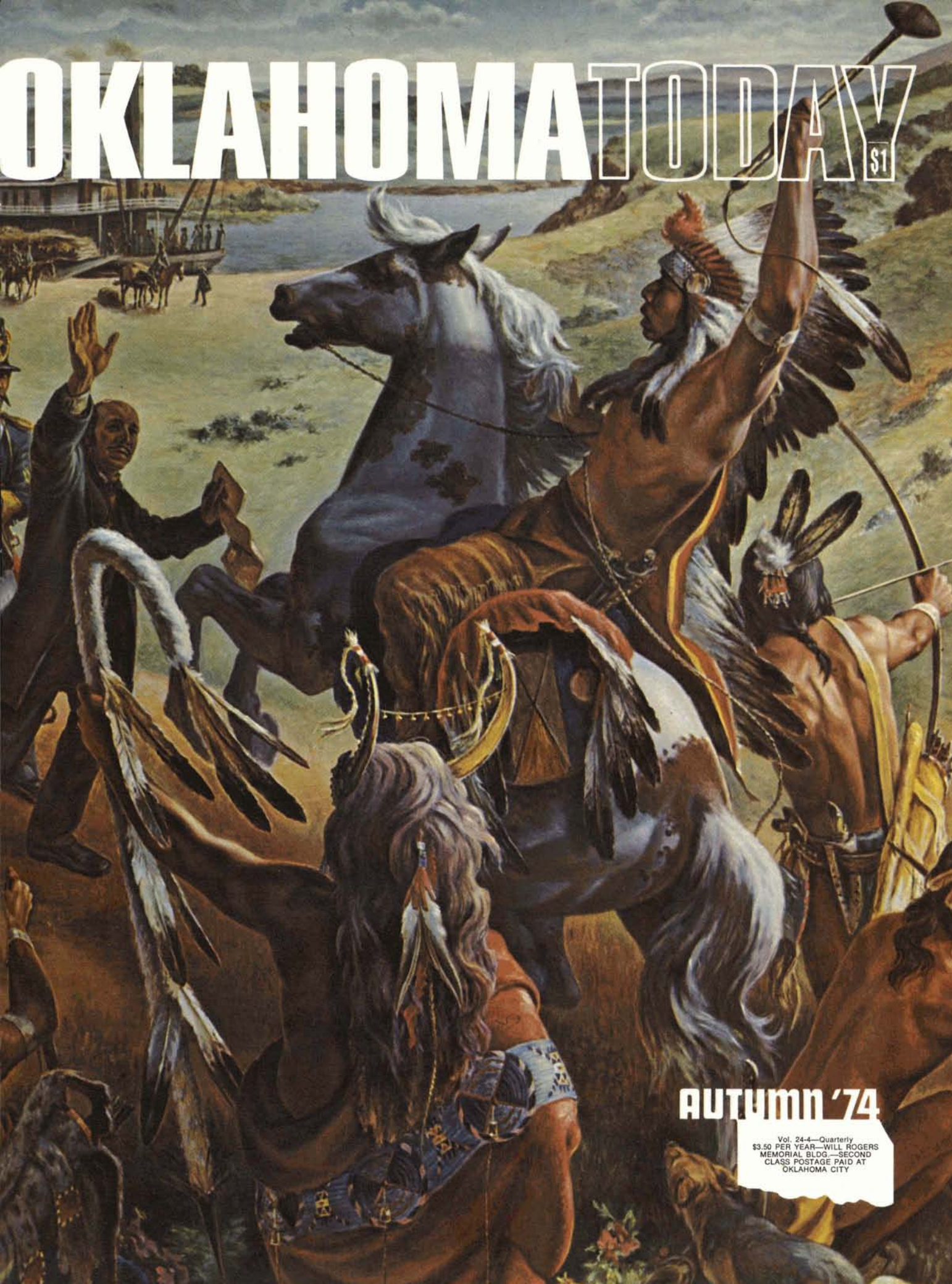


AUTUMN '74

Vol. 24-4—Quarterly
$3.50 PER YEAR—WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL BLDG.—SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT OKLAHOMA CITY

**The first of what may become an annual event was recently held at Concho. It was a competition—in writing, art, music, and crafts. The competitors were Indian young people—from Riverside Indian School, Anadarko; Concho, near El Reno; Sequoyah, Tahlequah; Chilocco; and Fort Sill. Beautiful things were exhibited.**

**Reproduced here are two of the paintings.**

**Such skill, with training so brief, in those so young, seems to us incredible: we truly marvel.**

**We think you'll marvel, too, at the written expressions we are publishing from these young people. Some of these talents are young indeed. Spencer Todome was in the fourth grade. We have other young writers from the fifth through the eighth grades; and the maturity of thought of the high school age contestants is as impressive as the precocity of the youngest writers.**

Indian
I am brown
I am brave
I am tough
I am an American.

Wesley Sam
Grade 5, Concho
Seminole-Creek-Choctaw

I wish I was home,
I wish I was rich,
I wish I were a book.
I wish I was a car,
I wish I was a gun,
I wish I was a dog,
I wish I was a tornado.
Or . . .
Would it be terrible if
I wished I were me?

Gene Howell
Grade 5, Concho
Pawnee

Tepee
Brown, red,
Keeping, standing, lodging.
It is very warm inside.
Beautiful.

Spencer Todome
Grade 4, Concho
Comanche-Kiowa

The Legend Of The Old Lady

One time there was an old lady who sat on a big mountain making a design on a blanket. Her dog used to watch her design the blanket. When she went to the fire to stir up the kettle, and her back was turned, the dog used to pull the thread out of the blanket. They say that if she ever finishes the blanket, the end of the world will come.

Wendall Pappan
Grade 5, Concho
Ponca

Friends
brown, white, black,
running, talking, singing,
fun to play with.
nice.

Spencer Todome
Grade 4, Concho
Comanche-Kiowa

The Way to Talk

When I first came, I saw a girl who would not talk to me. Then I finally said "Hi." Then she said, "Hi," back to me. I said my name was Julia. She said her name was Kay Leading Fox. Now Kay and I are good friends. We walk around laughing together and I always try to sit by her when I can. Then Angela Tookalo came and roomed with me and Janise T. All of us are good friends now.

Julia Blevins
Grade 5, Concho
Ponca

Ceremonial
by Jeanie Norman
Age 16: Tonkawa-Pawnee
Chilocco: Senior

Apache Fire Dance . . . by Gerald Magoosh, Age 14, Mescalero Apache, Concho, 8th Grade

### Soul

S is for Sociable
O is for Optimistic
U is for Understanding
L is for Likeable.

Myrna Black
Grade 8-Sec. 1, Concho
Cheyenne

I am Indian.
I go to school and
live in Oklahoma.
They call me Billy.

My head, mind, and
teacher help me to
learn.

When I grow up I
want to be a scientist.

I am Indian.
I am Billy.

Billy Dorsey
Grade 5, Concho
Creek

The Great Spirit is my leader.
He is the one who made the flowers.
He is the one who made me.
He is the one who made the Indian people.
He is the one who made the White people.
He is the one who watches over us.

Susie White
Grade 4, Concho
Cheyenne-Arapaho

This is the day when the Lord was born.
The sun laughed with joy, but the
mountain was torn by the sun's thorn
of rays.

William Kurty
Grade 8-Sec. 1, Concho
Kiowa-Comanche

### Eagle Flight

An eagle wings gracefully
through the sky.
On the earth I stand
and watch.
My heart flies with it.

Mary Lou Pappan
Grade 4, Concho
Ponca

### The Snowman

The snowman really is
no man. He is just snow.
Later he'll come to an end,
just like everything else.

Delos Hawkins
Grade 8-Sec. 1, Concho
Cheyenne

We went into the woods where we saw a big bulldozer knocking down old trees and cutting the weeds. We picked cedar, leaves, flowers, and we found some feathers on the ground. Then we saw some men working with the bulldozer. When we were coming back Kevin and Charles ran up the hill. When we got up the hill we crossed the road to the door where we came in. The bulldozer made a lot of noise as it smoothed the ground with a big sharp thing.

Later we were smelling our cedar, and feeling the weeds, and seeing beautiful things, while hearing sounds of the bulldozer.

Ruth Ann Frank
Grade 4, Concho
Caddo

### Autumn

It is nice, it has lovely light
The squirrels gather their nuts
Birds fly south
Bears hunt for food.
And when you walk on the leaves,
it sounds crunchy . . .
You dress warmly
and the leaves smell moist
It is foggy,
and in the morning frost comes.

Spencer Todome
Grade 4, Concho
Comanche-Kiowa

### I Don't Know How

I don't know how to make friends,
Everytime I try to make friends, I always
make a mistake.
They don't understand me, and they walk
away from me.

I don't have any friends at all.

Angela Tookaio
Grade 5, Concho
Kiowa

### The Vision

In the cloud I see a vision
of an Indian girl
climbing a mountain,
covered with snow.

It is good up there and in the
valley a cover of green colors
the grass.

She becomes a beautiful woman.
When she cries it rains.
The sky turns pink and yellow
and orange.
A rainbow, happiness.

When she cooks, smoke rises
from those mountains.
Around her tepee shall fly
the Great Spirit's eagles
forever.

Terri Fletcher
Grade 5, Concho
Cheyenne-Arapaho

The eagle man has a long bill. His face is like an eagle. He has on a blue shirt and a red necklace. On his arms are eagle feathers. He has on white and black boots. Small orange feathers are on his boots, too. There are bells around his waist and he has a tan belt. The eagle man does the eagle dance.

Mary Lou Pappan
Grade 4, Concho
Ponca

A DOWN is no spending money.
A DOWN is not going home on week-end.
A DOWN is getting a black eye.
A DOWN is leaving home when I'm going out of state to go to boarding school.
A DOWN is having to wash dishes in the kitchen.
A DOWN is getting hit in the head with a snowball.
A DOWN is cleaning up the rec-room.
A DOWN is going to bed early.
A DOWN is a sadness on a person's face.

An UP is going home.
An UP is getting to play in the snow.
An UP is getting money in your pocket.
An UP is a smile on a face.
An UP is sleeping late.
An UP is having a best friend.
An UP is listening to my records.
An UP is camping at Indian Fair.
An UP is getting to go with my grandparents when they go someplace.
An UP is warmth, happiness, and gentleness.

Group Project
Grade 8-Sec. 2, Concho

### Glance

I see seven feathers . . .
no . . . wait . . .
A tree in the rain.

Victor Harjo
Grade 4, Concho
Kiowa-Creek

NATURE
L
W
A
Y
SUPER
R
E
T
THROUGHOUT
H
Y
YEAR

Kathy Cochran
Freshman, Riverside
Assiniboine

### The Drum

The drum, a voice,
A rhythmic voice.
The drum, a sound,
A touching sound.
The drum, a movement,
A head to toe movement.
The drum, a feeling,
A pleasant, vibrating feeling.
The drum, a call,
A deep-reaching call.
The drum, I hear,
A sound I like to hear.

Virgil Franklin
Sophomore, Riverside
Kiowa-Arapaho

You smile . . .
I smile so we're both happy,
but deep down inside
there is hatred
between us . . .

So let's not show our inside
feelings to one another
Just keep on smiling
until we smile away our hate.

Herman Johnson
Senior, Riverside
Navajo

## Listen

Listen easy and you can hear the wind calling
Walking alone in the silent winter night.
Listen easy and you can hear the snow falling
Watching the owl make its silent flight.

Listen easy and you can hear the flowers growing
Walking alone in the silent summer night.
Listen easy and you can hear the distant river flowing
Waking up when the dark morning starts to turn light.

Warren Anquoe
Senior, Sequoyah
Kiowa

## A Part of You

If I could save some part of you,
It would be this day:
this hour would do—
Your eyes alight with such surprise
To see how spring
can change the sky,
And touch the trees,
and find the flowers.

Mary Starr
Junior, Fort Sill
Shawnee

## I Noticed February

The touching bright sun,
The branches moving in the breeze.
Shades of February I see,
Bright with many reflections.
Sounds of singing birds I hear,
In harmony with the breeze.
A day of joys
Comes only from within our minds.
The blue and lonely sky.
Is wide and openly
Busy with thoughts not human
That offer freedom; but not
To be freed of this past, and
Becoming day in February.

Don Stewart
Sophomore, Riverside
Crow

## Wind

See the wind.
See it run in and out of a tree making
a leaf fall to the ground.
See the wind.
See it wear down a sand hill and
build a new one.
See the wind.
See it bring the breeze to cool our
faces.
See the wind.
See it bring the air I need to live.

Victor Frank
Junior, Sequoyah
Seminole

My dad had been sick for a long time and was in the hospital at Talihina for three years. He had a slight case of tuberculosis and he was a diabetic. Anyway, after he got out he just stayed home all the time. Oh, and he used to drink a lot before he ever got sick, but when he got sick he quit, he never drank again.

But one day he left in his car and didn't come back that night or wasn't back the next day.

That night I told my mom we had better go look for him, 'cause he would hardly go anywhere and stay that long. Even if he went to town he would just stay for a little while.

It was during the winter and it was snowing. We thought maybe something happened, so late that evening we went looking for him at Park Hill. We stopped and asked some people he knew that might have seen him.

At one house we stopped at, the people said they had seen him the day before. They told us he was at this guy's house by Camp Look Away. So we went up there.

My brother and I went in to see about him. And sure enough, he had been drinking. I thought maybe he was just passed out 'cause he was breathing real hard.

We went back out to the car and told Mom that he was in there sleeping or passed out. We just left him there and decided to come back that night.

It was about 6:30 or 7:00 when we went back, but it was still daylight. I went in again, my brother with me. I went over to my dad and was telling him to get up and let's go home. But he wouldn't wake up. I kept on shaking him and saying, "Daddy, get up, let's go home." But he never woke up. I'll never forget that as long as I live.

After Mom came in and told me that he was already gone, I started crying so much that I started throwing up. For a while I almost went crazy. I still think about it sometimes, but not as much as I used to.

Anonymous
Sequoyah

## Man's Choice

A man is not a victim of the past. He may choose whatever he wishes to become. The past has not been rubbed on to him.

Bonnie Kingfisher
Senior, Sequoyah
Cherokee-Creek

Help me get out of here.
I need help, get my hand.
I need you to reach out and
get my hand.
This world is closing up.
Help me I'm getting squeezed up
in this world.

Murdell Cojo
Junior, Riverside
Mescalero-Apache

My mother always cooks at our annual pow-wow. We always camp at the same place. Her day starts out by getting up early in the morning, then cooking all day long. But evenings I can remember best. The weather starts to cool with the sun setting. By then the fire is just embers glowing from burning all day. She puts her pots of water on to boil, then mixes in meat, spices, and fresh vegetables. Later, I see her standing by the hot fire with beads of sweat on her forehead, wearing that old green and blue striped dress with flour and ashes on it, and a towel around her neck to catch the sweat. Her hair in braids behind her head, there she is, stirring. I can smell the meat and vegetables, done and ready to eat. She fills small, red flowered bowls for the smaller ones who are eager to eat. I always eat last, with her. As we eat we talk. As I look at her and see the wrinkles around her face and realize how old she is, suddenly I want her to know how much I love her.

Susie Whitewater
Senior, Sequoyah
Kickapoo-Sioux

Drum me a beat,
A beat so loud and strong.
Drum me a beat,
A beat so loud and strong.
So I can hear far away,
That we all can hear.
For all my people to hear.
Drum me a beat,
A beat so loud and strong.
Drum me a beat,
A beat so loud and strong.
For the brave ones, the old ones, too.
The mighty chief of God.
Who wants to hear our beat.
Let the beat be strong.
Drum me a beat,
A beat so loud and strong.
Drum me a beat,
A beat so loud and strong.
For you and me to hear.
Drum me a beat.

Clarissa Hugar
Sophomore, Riverside
Kiowa-Apache

Difference

Men and women
Are different.
Or are they?

Men are powerful,
Strong, reliable, intelligent.
Or are they?

Women are weak,
Fickle, silly, irresponsible.
Or are they?

Between the two
There is an enormous difference.
Or is there?

Rencie Conboy
Senior, Riverside
Pottawatomi

Trees can sing,
and stars can cry
and maybe rocks can shine.

What I feel,
is what I write
and what I write is mine.

I can see,
and I can fly
or maybe I am blind.

Who's to say
what writing is
when others have a mind?

Don Hummingbird
Senior, Sequoyah
Cherokee

When a person alone tries to tackle a big job he may not get it done. When people work together on a problem they usually get it done. It is much better when people work together.

Jimmy Yahola
Senior, Sequoyah
Creek

One Day In The Woods

I went to her house.
She packed her case.
We stole out the back door.
We walked down the road.
I took her hand
And hurried into the woods.
She whispered something in my ear
Until I heard enough,
And then,
And then,
And then,
I pulled open the case
And we ate our sandwiches.

John Mathews
Sophomore, Riverside
Pawnee-Kiowa-Comanche

It isn't my day,
It isn't my day,
For I fell down twice,
On a puddle of ice.

It's not my day;
It's not my day;
For I went to skate,
And fell over my date.
It just isn't my day today!

Karen Daugherty
Freshman, Sequoyah
Cherokee

**Judging the music portion of the Concho competition was famed Cherokee-Quapaw musician Louis Ballard. Maestro Ballard is as personable as he is musical. His compositions in the classic mode have Indian ancestry, and he has done more than any previous composer toward preserving true Indian tribal music.**

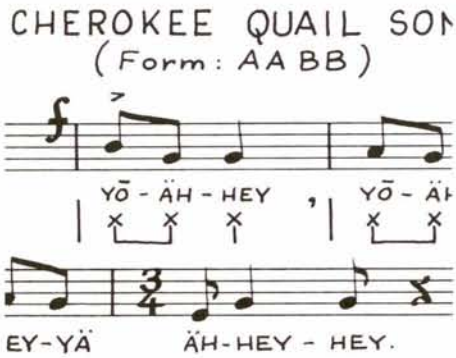
**His experimenting and success in teaching actual tribal songs to classrooms of non-Indian children have produced a recorded album titled OKLAHOMA INDIAN CHANTS: For the Classroom. It includes a *Shawnee Dance Song, Quapaw Peyote Song, Choctaw Walk Song, Cherokee Quail Song, Creek-Seminole Four Corner Dance*, and a *Kiowa Church Hymn*. The instructional book with the album contains the printed music for each song, song analysis, and dance diagrams.[1]**

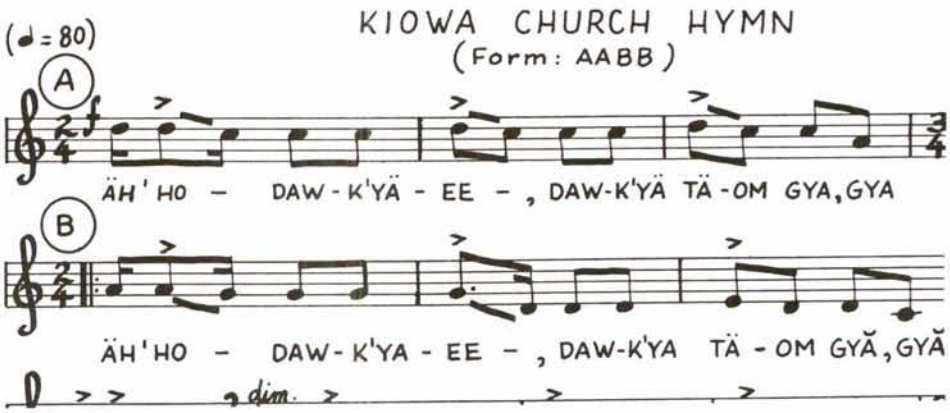
**Louis Ballard's ballet *Koshare* was commissioned by the Harkness Ballet and performed by that company throughout Europe and the United States. He composed the ballet *The Four Moons* which was performed here by Oklahoma's Indian ballerinas Yvonne Chouteau, Rosella Hightower, Moscelyne Larkin, and Marjorie Tallchief in 1967, celebrating our 60th Anniversary of Statehood.**

***Ritmo Indio*, Louis Ballard's woodwind-quintet, was the first winner of the Marion Nevins McDowell Award in 1969. His major works have been performed by the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Seattle Symphony, the Kansas City Philharmonic, the Milwaukee Symphony, the National Symphony in Washington, D.C., and the Eastman Rochester Orchestra.**

**Maestro Ballard has conducted the Milwaukee Symphony in his *Scenes from Indian Life* and *Why the Duck has a Short Tail*. In 1970 his *Katchina Dances* for cello and chamber orchestra received their premiere on an all-Ballard concert by the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra.**

**Among his recent works is *The Gods Will Hear* a cantata for mixed chorus based on the poem *Man is Here, Here is Man* by Lloyd H. New. Composer Ballard is working on an Indian opera scheduled for premiere at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.**




1 Record produced in cooperation with the Muskogee Area Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs by Bourne Music Co., 136 West 52nd Street, New York 10019.

This Oklahoma showgirl added a word to the English language. In oilrush days when a rig brought in a gusher someone on the drilling crew was likely to exclaim, "It's a Ruby Darby!" Gradually the phrase has been abbreviated to "It's a Darb!" And everyone knows that a "Darb" is something great and extra special.

# RUBY DARBY

by Marilyn Michaels

One name, Ruby Darby, stands derrick-tall in the memories of Oklahoma's early oil men. Her professional career began at 15. In 1913, getting her first break in a Dallas theater owned by a Mr. Gardiner, she was plucked from the chorus line by Gardiner's son, Ed, who made her a star in the Southwest, and his wife.

In subsequent months and years, Ruby was rumored to have "stripped at the drop of a driller's hat," "ridden a hoss completely nekkid down the mud-and-oil-splashed streets of Keifer," and "danced bare-skinned on a tool shack roof as men tossed silver dollars at her feet."

Many of the stories were no doubt fostered by Ruby herself, or by Gardiner, both of whom knew that the racier the story, the fuller the house at performances.

Ruby's appearance in town was typical. In her breezy firehouse style, she'd tear up the dusty main street at 40 miles an hour, showy in an expensive fur coat and driving a Locomobile or some other big car painted red. After the expected arrest for "speeding" the news would "get out" that "Ruby wasn't wearing nothin' under that coat!"

After making sure the story was well circulated, Ed would bail Ruby out and by curtain time that evening the theater would be packed to the rafters. Another rumor sure to bring men in was the "whispering campaign" allegedly being waged by the local ladies' aid society protesting the booking of her show.

Every theater manager wanted the Ruby Darby show, and as often as he could get it. It didn't matter if the show was good or not, as long as Ruby was there in person.

"I'll tell you how good she was," the mayor of a former boom town volunteers. "She was so good they ran me off from the pool hall whenever she appeared for an impromptu performance. I was just a kid, of course, but she was a heck of a beautiful girl and there wasn't any joke about that. Why, man, they'd lay off work to see Ruby Darby!"

"I made it a point never to play an engagement in a town where she was," one ex-entertainer recalls. "And I made it a point never to come near crossing her path as competition. She had 'the wall backed off the board' when she hit town."

Part of Ruby's charm lay in what Hank Patterson, a member of her troupe, today recalls as her "audacity."

"She was a natural adventurer," he says. "She'd try anything once. She'd wear a hat backwards just for the hell of it."

She is said to have been one of the earliest—and greatest—blues singers. Certainly she sang the first blues song ever heard onstage in the Southwest. "Memphis Blues" by W. C. Handy was her most famous number. "It made the audience scream," Patterson says.

She was a pioneer of the strip tease, too . . . her fame preceding and rivaling that of Sally Rand.

In this respect, Ruby, so much a child of her time, was ahead of the times. "What was daring then," one former showman remarks, with a shake of his head, "you see on Main Street today."

But teasing was never a substitute for talent in the Ruby Darby show. Within the loose musical comedy-farce framework, of the "tab" show so popular in those days preceding World War I, she offered two capable chorus lines, clever comedy, and the splashiest, flashiest costumes.

She would belt out a song in that husky, sultry, almost gutteral voice of hers and the effects would be shattering. She had a tremendous voice but she had something else. Trying to define it, Patterson says: "It was the way she moved . . . her hands . . . her eyes . . . the way she emphasized certain words . . . a twitch of the torso maybe . . . or the hips. What it took, she had."

Whatever Ruby had, it was popular. The average tabloid show boasted a maximum of eight chorus girls. The Darby show had 16. When times were hard for a tab show, the chorus kicked up cotton-clad legs. The Darby girls' stockings were always silk.

Ruby was never stingy with anything. Not with money and not with praise. Once, when presents for her fellow troupers were stolen from her dressing room on Christmas Eve, she borrowed money and replaced every gift. She praised Patterson's piano playing as, "The sweetest this side of the Mississippi."

"Sometimes," Patterson remembers, "I had a hard time with her at rehearsals. The madder I got ,the louder she'd laugh. When Ruby laughed—which she did a-plenty—she threw back her head, opened up and really let go."

During World War I Ruby played the Army camps. Some time around that period came Ruby's second marriage, to a banker. The marriage was short-lived and Ruby took to the stage

again. By this time it was the Twenties and Ruby roared right along with them. The Darby legends continued to grow.

Among them: Ruby Darby was as profane as a mule skinner. Ruby Darby carried a gun in her car and could shoot mighty straight. Ruby Darby's appearance at a stag party in an oil camp mess hall outside of Drumright created such excitement a lamp was knocked over and the hall burned to the ground.

As for the stories, Patterson has only one thing to say: "There are plenty stories about her I can't verify. But I can tell you this: if someone told me Ruby treated anyone badly, was "snooty" or hypocritical—those stories I wouldn't believe. She just wasn't made that way!"

Although Ruby was often in pay sand, she must have dreamed of a gusher . . . of exchanging the oilrush towns of Oklahoma for the Great White Way of New York . . . for sometime in the Twenties, she found herself in the wings of the Palace Theater, mecca of big-time vaudeville, waiting her turn in the weekly talent auditions.

In the dark beyond the footlights were 200 agents, America's toughest, representing top vaudeville circuits . . . a vastly different audience for the oilrush queen.

Ruby wasn't the least bit awed by the audience, or the magnificence of the Palace. Although she must have looked conventional standing on stage in street clothes, conventional Ruby never was.

As she started her song, the agents sat in skeptical silence. By the time she began to dance, the sophisticated agents were reacting like roustabouts.

As the "Girl With the Blues" left the stage, she walked straight into a contract with the famous Keith-Albee circuit which saw in her another Sophie Tucker . . . a beautiful, younger Sophie. Money was no consideration. A song writer was hired to compose special material for Ruby. Realizing they had something purely sensational, the circuit bosses booked her for all the big-time Keith Houses.

Evidently Ruby decided she'd rather be independently poor. Her first play date was Baltimore. She never arrived. Months later came a post card, postmarked El Paso.

The card was sent to Glen Condon, well-known Tulsan who, at that time, was connected with vaudeville in New York. Years later, with a grin, he recalled: "She said something to the effect she was having a wonderful time. But not even a 'wish you were here.' "

Behind her, in the Keith-Albee office, she left unsigned a long-term contract which, starting at $750 a week, would have graduated up to $7,500 a week.

From El Paso, the trail of Ruby across the oil country dims. By the 1930s, she was living in Los Angeles, a wife again, mother of "little Ruby" and a son.

Her old friend, Hank Patterson, tells of a chance meeting with her at a party. "We talked and talked and talked of old times. We both cried a little. I played some of her old songs but she couldn't sing them well because of the tears.

"I left LA not long after that and she passed away some time in the thirties. I don't know the circumstances of her death. I don't care to know them."

There are hundreds of people who, like Patterson, would not want to know of Ruby's death. Even if you told them, they might not believe you. For Ruby Darby is a legend, and everyone knows legends never die . . . they just grow older, and stronger . . . and sweeter.

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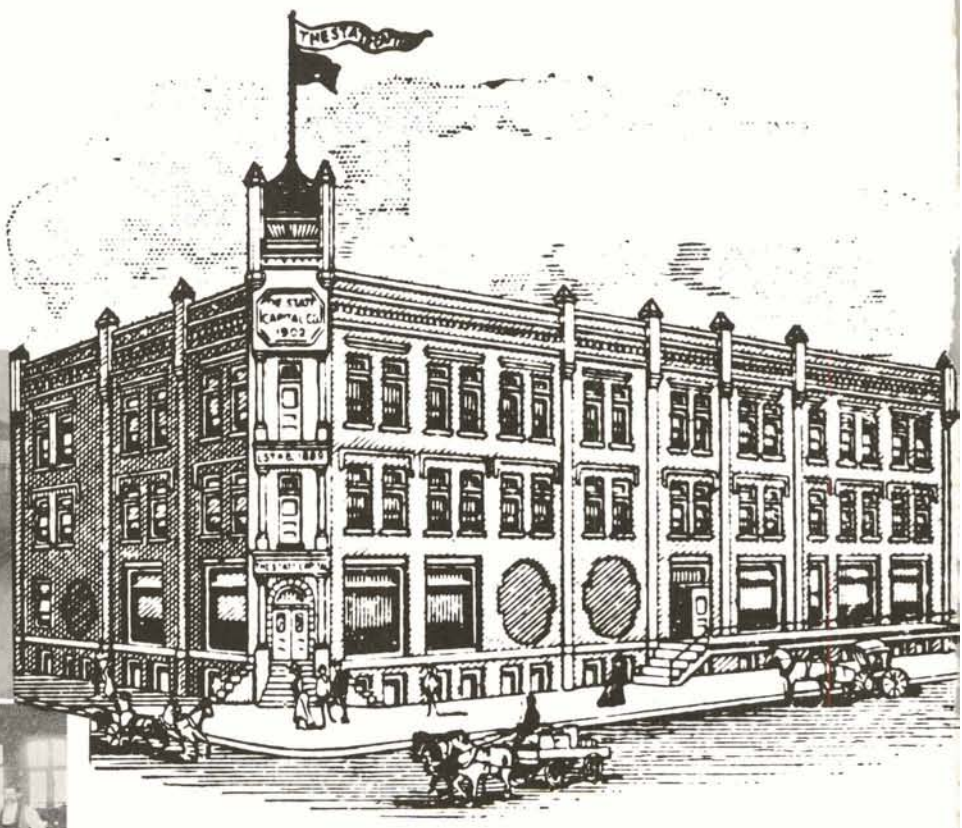
# OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK



*The photos above are as the Cooperative Building appeared in 1902: at the right as it appears today.*

## COOPERATIVE PRESS MUSEUM

When it is renovated and opened for viewing the press museum at Guthrie will be one of the great attractions in the nation. Graphic arts people from around the world will rate it high among the places they want to see as soon as they become aware of it.

At the time it was built, co-incident with the turn of the century, it was the most modern newspaper plant in America. Removal of the capital from Guthrie to Oklahoma City caused the almost immediate demise of the newspaper published and printed there.

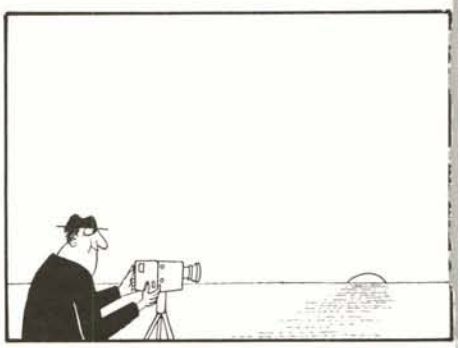
Thus the publishing plant of that major territorial newspaper, *The Oklahoma State Capital,* did not evolve with the times. Like the Sleeping Beauty's castle, there it stands, fixed in time, covered with almost a century's dust. Little of its circa 1900 equipment was ever removed, and even less more modern equipment was ever added.

Essentially it remains what it was, the publishing plant of the most up-to-date newspaper of the year 1902. Once it has been thoroughly dusted off and the paint touched up, she'd even be ready to roll, if a crew of 1902 newspapermen who knew how to operate steam-driven presses should happen to turn up.

Her lobby with its ornate wickets for subscriptions, cashier, want ads, etc., looks like a set for a gay nineties TV series called "READALLABOUT-IT!" Her dusty type cases contain antique type faces that would be great for setting ads for catarrh remedies and Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

The Oklahoma Press Association and the Guthrie Chamber of Commerce have been working together, under chairman Bill Lehmann of the *Guthrie Daily Leader,* in the money raising effort to purchase the Cooperative. They are over the top now with 71 individual donors and 32 state newspapers contributing, the largest contributor being the Donrey papers.

With financial arrangements now being completed for purchase, we'll try to keep you posted on progress, as refurbishing gets underway.



*Oklahoma Today photographer at work (see following page).*

MISS INDIAN OKLAHOMA

She is Carrie Vee Wilson of Miami, Oklahoma. Her father is Charles Banks Wilson and you can view some of his work on pages 37-39 of this issue of *Oklahoma Today*.

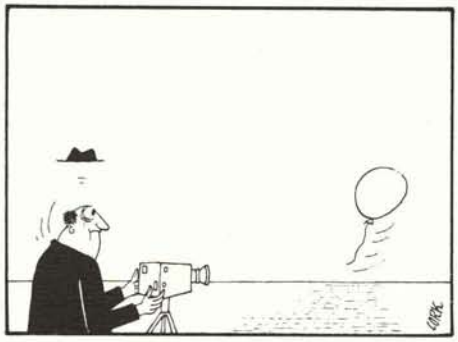
Carrie is brainy as well as beautiful. She has thus far spoken to the Tribal Leaders' Conference in Norman; at a celebration held at O.C.L.A., Chickasha, in preparation for the 1976 Bicentennial; and the National Council of the American Indians' National Indian Day Dinner in Tulsa.

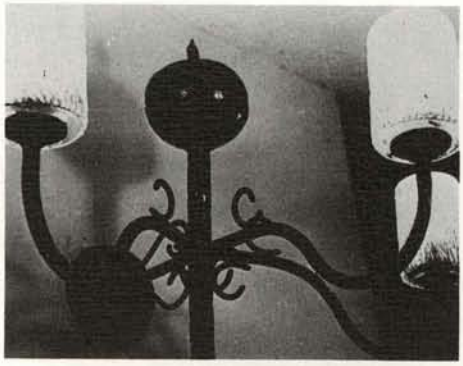
She is convinced that Miss Indian Oklahoma should do a great deal more than just look pretty, and she has dedicated herself to the encouragement of education. *Continue your education* is her message to her peers. She is an honor student at Northeastern Oklahoma A. & M., a member of the college Math Club, and the Science club. She is a published poet, and an award-winning artist.

She carries her message to the many pow wows she attends as head lady dancer, Quapaw Tribal Princess, or Miss Indian Oklahoma; this year including the Quapaw Pow Wow, Beaver Springs Park, Quapaw; Sac and Fox Pow Wow, Stroud; Oklahoma City Pow Wow; Ki-he-kah Steh Pow Wow, Skiatook; American Indian Exposition, Anadarko; the Cherokee National Holiday, Tahlequah; and a Seminole Tribal gathering, Seminole.

Our photo is of Carrie (head lady dancer) and Lenny Skye (head man dancer) at this year's Quapaw Pow Wow.

# OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK





Struck by the almost humanized appearance of this lamp, photographer Alfonso Neri Avila photographed it in a shopping center. The lamp seems to suggest that we should be grateful, even to a non-human thing like this, which seems to seek to help us with its light.

## Har-Ber Village

Three and one-half miles west of Grove, on the shore of Grand Lake of the Cherokees is Har-Ber Village. Green lawns, log cabins, old time things, recall the past we have romanticized. There is no admission charge. This remarkable collection is composed of individual, named structures — Mayor's Home, Furniture House, Music House, Print Shop, Court House, Stagecoach Inn, Post Office, Har-Ber Village School, Bank, Church, Dress and Art Shop, Harness and Shoe Repair, among others.

Each "House" displays suitable artifacts in its proper setting. Pioneer log cabins, Uncle Ned's Barn, Buggy Shed, all are designed to accurately demonstrate how our pioneer forebears lived. Harvey and Bernice Jones created it all, along with its fitting name, composed of the first three letters of each of their names.

# OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK

## SEVEN CONTINENTS: STROUD

Breaking a christening bottle of water from the Atlantic and the Pacific, on the prow of a symbolic schooner, launched the Seven Continents theme fun park at Stroud this summer.

When completed, the 1600-acre, $42 million family entertainment fun complex will feature attractions in the atmosphere of Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, South America, and Antartica.

Located more than 200 miles from each of three other regional theme parks—Six Flags over Texas (Dallas), Six Flags over Mid-America (St. Louis), and Worlds of Fun (Kansas City), the Stroud site has passing traffic of 32.5 million travelers per year.

Visitors will buy a Passport, then descend into an active Hawaiian volcano, cruise the Amazon, go on safari to Africa, seek out the Abominable Snowman in the Himalayas, ride a sled through the ice floes of Antartica, or a glass bottom boat along Australia's Great Barrier Reef, while enjoying a variety of world travel experiences.

Spring of 1977 is the target date for the opening of first attractions at the park.

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## LAST TIN TYPIST

Fort Chickamauga, on Highway 82 near Cookson, in the heart of Cherokeeland, has the last and only maker of tin types working today using the exact methods of A. Lincoln photographer Matthew Brady.

He is H. Dyer Bentzel II, pictured here in action as if you were the target of the open lens of his camera. Tin typist Bentzel is only one among other ghosts of the past living at this unique and almost incredible military post.

Fort Chickamauga's C.O. Maj. John H. Jeffries is commanding the only active horse cavalry post in the U.S. His Yankee Civil War type troopers ride forth daily on training missions, mount guard duty, maintaining the daily routines of an active 1870 cavalry post in the "Twilight Zone of American History."

You can request a bulletin on this remarkable activity from Fort Chickamauga, Box 7, Cookson, Okla. 74427. Or just get in your car, drive up and visit.

Commanding Officer Jeffries

## Flag Spring

A caravan of ox drawn carts, traveling four abreast along the Cimarron cut off, turned off the Santa Fe Trail just southwest of Castañeda. Moving along the high ridge toward the towering cottonwoods of Flag Spring they would bend sharply south again above the springs. The ruts they followed are still there, clearly. Down the rise they would come, breaking the late afternoon stillness with cart noise, shouted drover commands at thirsty oxen already aware of the first clear pool of green carrizo edged water in the cut below. After watering they would move deeper into the shady, rocky fastness of the springs, the caravan breaking up into smaller camps for supper and a little evening socializing before bedding down for the night. It was, and is, a beautiful and restful place, eagerly anticipated, and reluctantly departed.

# OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK

## WATERMELON SEED CONFLICT

Watermelon seeds have at least two uses—planting and spitting. Weatherford bills her annual contest on how far you can do the latter as the "World Championship." Pauls Valley proclaims a World Championship Watermelon Seed Spitter, too. How come? It is rumored that Weatherford News publisher Ken Reid formerly published the Pauls Valley Daily Democrat, and it is suspected that when publisher Reid left Pauls Valley he sneaked a set of watermelon seed spittin' specifications out in a laundry bag. Allegations of this type, you'll recall, accompanied the removal of the State Seal from Guthrie to Oklahoma City in 1911. So the M.O. ("method of operation" in the language of cops and robbers movies) has a precedent. *Oklahoma Today,* being strictly non-partisan, can express no *preferencia* here. We do hope these two cities will schedule an official "spit-off" before the next edition of Guinness *"World Records"* goes to press. Conflicts of this sort tend to escalate unless officially resolved.

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## FATHER AND DAUGHTER CHAMPIONS

Easy Date, owned by Walter Merrick of Sayre, won the world's richest horse race this autumn, winning $330,000.00; (total purse one million dollars). What's more, her sire Easy Jet won that same richest horse race just 5 years ago, and it is the first time in history that a filly and her sire have both won the All-American Futurity at Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico.

She had tough competition. Tiny's Gay entered the starting gate with a record of twelve straight wins, including Ruidoso Downs' Kansas Futurity and Rainbow Futurity. He was the odds-on favorite to win the All-American Futurity. He came in second.

The odds are even greater that it will be a long, long time before a pair of horses of any other blood line equal, let alone top, the record of Walter Merrick's father-daughter pair of quarterhorse champions from Sayre.

*Easy Date Wins — 1974.*

*Easy Jet Wins—1969.*

## Nuyaka

Nuyaka Mission was established in 1884 at the Creek town named Nuyaka.

In 1790 President George Washington invited leaders of the Creek Nation to New York. He was eager to win their loyalty to the United States so that their Indian Nation, then located in Alabama and Georgia, would not become too friendly with Spain.

The Spanish border, you'll recall, was the Mississippi River until the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. General Washington's hosting of the Creek chieftains was successful and the Indian leaders returned to their homes so entranced with New York's wonders that they named one of their towns in its honor.

When they came to Oklahoma in the early 1800s, they brought their towns with them. To the white man's unaccustomed ears, the Indians' soft pronunciation of "New York" has always sounded like "Nuyaka." So, gradually, the Creeks "New York" became "Nuyaka." And so it remains today.

NEW BOOKS

COMANCHE DAYS by Albert S. Gilles, Sr., S.M.U. Press, Dallas, $6.95. Mr. Gilles is a charmer in the art of story-telling. He relates here several of his experiences as a young boy in the early day Comanche country. His way is not pretentious, but fireside telling, and the Comanche people about whom he writes become your personal friends as well as his, as they were at the outset. Mo-cho-rook, Ca-vo-yo, Albert Martny and the bone setter, every person about whom he writes becomes someone you won't forget after reading this Norman author. Mr. Gilles' more than seventy years in Oklahoma have been spent in reaping a ripe harvest of yarns and tales worth telling.

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WINDOW ON THE PAST by Kent Ruth, Oklahoma Publishing Co., Oklahoma City, $2.20 (by mail order). A ready reference on our historic sites. You'll want to take it along in the car when you set out to see. A listing by county, complete at time of publication, of all of Oklahoma's sites on the National Historic Register is included. Some 75 of these are then discussed in greater detail, usually with a picture included. Difficult to locate sites may not be so difficult with this book in hand. These brief historic accounts are written with wit and variety. Such interesting reading tends to make a traveler for real out of the armchair traveler.

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THERE'S NOT A BATHING SUIT IN RUSSIA by Will Rogers, Oklahoma State University Press, Stillwater, Oklahoma, $6.95. It is once more possible to purchase Will Rogers' long out-of-print collectors' item books. The O.S.U. Press is republishing them. This book, and ETHER AND ME ($6.50), are now available. Forthcoming will be THE ILLITERATE DIGEST, THE COWBOY PHILOSPHER ON THE PEACE CONFERENCE, and on PROHIBITION, LETTERS OF A SELF-MADE DIPLOMAT TO HIS PRESIDENT, THE WORST STORY I'VE HEARD TODAY. Copies of Will's books and original writings had become as rare as recent biographies of him are plentiful. This is source material, and the undiluted Will.

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THE PAWNEE INDIANS by George E. Hyde, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma, $8.95. The ancestral home of the Pawnees having been Oklahoma, it was to Oklahoma they sought to return when the days of the horse Indian and buffalo hunting waned after 1875. Author Hyde worked early with George Bird Grinnell. Independently, he wrote much Indian history including such great works as *Red Cloud's Folk*, and *Spotted Tail's Folk*. This biography of the Pawnee people is one of his best. The author makes a convincing case that it was Pawnees that Coronado's early expedition contacted in Kansas, rather than Wichitas. The Pawnees, great fighters, never used their military skill against the U.S.A. This eminently readable book provides some fresh insights on the Indian Wars of the last century.

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PAINTED TIPIS by Contemporary Plains Indian Artists, Southern Plains Museum and Crafts Center, Anadarko, Oklahoma, $5.00. The introduction, by Myles Libhart and Rosemary Ellison, provides a background in nomadic architecture. Full page color photos are included of the twelve tipis in the touring exhibit sponsored by the Indian Arts and Crafts Board of the U.S. Dept. of the Interior. Includes pictures of the artists who painted, and made, the tipis, their biographical sketches, and notes regarding the meaning of the designs on these painted tipis. The final section of this 80 page book relates other tipi legends, with color sketches of their designs. All nine of the painted tipis pictured in the last issue of *Oklahoma Today* are included in this well done book which also serves as a catalogue for the handsome and colorful, outdoor displayed, tipi exhibit.

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THE BUFFALO BOOK by David A. Dary, Swallow Press, Chicago, $15.00. Long considered a "museum piece" animal, the buffalo may be beating its way back as a producer of meat for American dinner tables, and hides for the multiplicity of things that can be manufactured from a buffalo robe. This book is a full treatise on the buffalo, from pre-history to future projection. We found it grippingly written. Accounts of the buffalo as a fighting animal are especially dramatic.

OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK

## Erin Springs

Rancher Frank Murray came early to Erin Springs on the Washita River. He was an energetic young immigrant from Londonderry, Ireland, and ambitious to prosper. Having arrived penniless from Ireland in the 1850s, he married a young Choctaw widow at Fort Gibson in 1871. They moved to the Chickasaw Nation, and prosper they did. In 1879 they began construction of the grandest house in all the Indian Territory. When completed, it served as headquarters for their 20,000 acre ranch-farm, a showplace visited by the high and mighty. In 1968 his heir, Miss Tess Lindsay, deeded the Erin Springs house to the Oklahoma Historical Society. It has been restored to its original grandeur, a tribute to early day elegance in the Indian Territory.

## KERR FOUNDATION RESEARCH

Not so long ago training a fish was an idea so far out that it was considered a fair subject for a Baron Munchausen whopper lie. Now we watch trained dolphins and whales in marine shows and on TV frequently.

Selective breeding and raising of fish herds for food, like cattle, may seem far out now—but it will be reality—watery feed lots for fish already exist.

On the frontier of experimental development in expanding food sources for humanity is the Kerr Foundation, Poteau. A series of ponds fed by the Poteau River have become the Foundation's feed lots for delicious, comestible, channel catfish.

Under carefully controlled growing conditions, these fish are fed in ponds according to size, or cage fed, harvested, and marketed, all for the purpose of developing growth data and research information that will be helpful to commercial producers.

No food is more delicious than a

# OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK

properly prepared channel catfish. They are high in protein, high in phosphorus, low in cholesterol. Present channel catfish producers cannot supply the growing market.

Kerr Foundation fish biologist Charles M. Collins stands ready to provide the most necessary element, expert consultation for producers of fish who encounter problems. Problems can develop suddenly in any feeding operation, including cattle feed lots. Disaster can best be prevented by having immediately available for consultation a highly qualified expert like biologist Collins.

From the background of his experience he is equipped to suggest solutions, whether it be improving the water's oxygen balance, the introduction of antibiotics, what antibiotics to use, etc.

Cage feeding of channel catfish is a technique adapted to bodies of water that cannot be drained or adequately seined in harvesting fish. The cages used in the Kerr Foundation experiments are one cubic meter in

## Fort Towson

Old Fort Towson has a unique distinction. It was the headquarters of the last Confederate General to surrender. General Stand Watie, commanding officer of the Cherokee Mounted Rifles, did not surrender until June, 1865, two months after Appomattox.

The Oklahoma Historical Society's reconstruction of this Confederate fort on our southern frontier is coming along apace. Identified are troops' barracks, officers' quarters, the post well, school, quartermasters' stores, powder magazine, outlines of the parade ground itself, and the graves in the old cemetery.

The fort was well situated in southern Oklahoma's lush green landscape, among towering trees, which cast dense shade. A beautiful and pleasant place on a hot summer afternoon, or after early autumn frost and its accompanying magical color touches.

BARRACKS

# OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK

size, constructed of galvanized welded wire. The cages are anchored across the width of an 18-acre ox-bow lake. Each cage is stocked at the beginning of the growing season with up to 360 fish. They are fed daily with floating catfish chow. Condition of the fish is regularly checked. The temperature of the water and its oxygen content are monitored.

Here is an area of experimentation in food production in its infancy—less than 15 years old. Much remains to be learned about the fundamentals of catfish feeding, spawning, and the reclaiming, reconditioning and reusing of water in which they are sustained. Marketing involves still unsolved problems. The need for cooperative markets to supply large grocery and restaurant chains with a regular, year-around supply is apparent.

We hope to see the day when top quality restaurants throughout Oklahoma will be serving delectable channel catfish with hushpuppies on the side. Or from the local market we can regularly purchase channel catfish as reliably delicious as our top quality Oklahoma sirloin steaks.

The most obvious need toward the arrival of that day is research, especially research in selective breeding. The Kerr Ranch has long been famous for the excellence of its prize Black Angus bulls. Kerr Foundation research will, we're certain, produce channel catfish as renowned as the Black Angus sires the ranch now produces.

Another aspect of the Kerr Foundation's work is the Inter-American Institute at Central State University, Edmond. Striving for greater understanding among the nations of the Americas, the Foundation has this year brought two programs to C.S.U. The first dealt with journalism in Mexico, bringing Alfonso Neri Castaneira, editor of *El Sol de Tlaxcala,* to C.S.U. to lecture on the history and philosophy of journalism in Mexico. A group of Oklahoma newspaper editors attended. Their questions brought out the fact that journalism in Mexico is similar to U.S. journalism, with Mexico excelling us in the art of newspaper color reproduction. Journalism in Mexico is also somewhat older than our own. Mexico's first publications were founded in the early 1500s.

Tlaxcala, Oklahoma's partner state in the Partners of the America's organization, has a fantastic history. Her early Indian history is related in the murals of Desiderio Xochitiotzin, who last spring conducted a seminar on art for C.S.U.'s Inter-American Institute. Three episodes from the Xochitiotzin murals painted on the walls of Tlaxcala's Governmental Palace are shown here. One depicts the *anuncio* of the god Quetzalcoatl announcing the arrival of Cortéz in the year *uno caña* (1519). Other figures in this episode depict the terror felt by Mexico's people on being confronted with Quetzalcoatl's dire predictions of conquest. Except for one. The Otomie Indian in the lower center, garbed in his brown battle dress, his *macana* (club) at his side, awaits the coming of the Spaniards with eagerness. He is ready to fight.

The mural above represents the "flower wars," wars fought to obtain victims for sacrifice to the ancient Mixtec gods. These wars were fought whenever the need for sacrificial victims arose. The feathered costumes of the warriors indicate the importance of birds and feathers in battle iconography of ancient Mexico, just as birds and feathers were important, especially to our Plains Indian people in Oklahoma.

The third panel illustrates the passage of history through *lienzos,* hieroglyphic documents inscribed on treebark paper. This panel depicts artist Xochitiotzin's grandfather passing tradition on to Xochitiotzin's father, thence on to modern artist Xochitiotzin himself.

The first of the Inter-American Institute series this autumn will bring Dr. Ignacio Mijares, speaker on México-U.S. relations, past president of Rotary International, to the C.S.U. campus for a series of lectures.

OATL · DIOSA · DEL · MAIZ.
·XXXVII·
OATL · TEOCIHUATL-TLAULLI

# calendar of events

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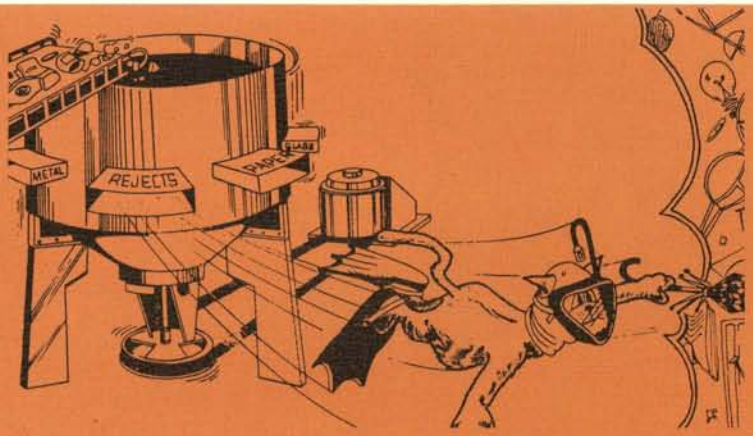
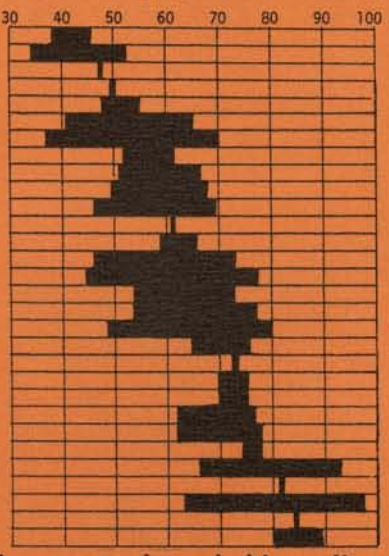
|---|---|
| Sept 27-Oct 6 | Tulsa State Fair...Tulsa |
| Sept 27-Oct 6 | Food and Fiber Show...Tulsa |
| Sept 29-Nov 30 | Five Civilized Tribes Art Show...Muskogee |
| Oct 2-13 | "Barefoot in the Park" (Theatre Center)...Okla City |
| Oct 3 | Okla City Symphony...Ada |
| Oct 3-5 | World's Largest Bull Riding...Ardmore |
| Oct 3-5 | Sr Citizens Fishing Tournament—Lake Texoma |
| Oct 3-5 | Loretto-Hilton Mime Co...Sapulpa |
| Oct 4-5 | Grand Lake Sailboat Regatta...Grove |
| Oct 4-5 | High School Speech Tournament (OSU)...Stillwater |
| Oct 4-6 | "Arsenic and Old Lace" (Jewel Box)...Okla City |
| Oct 4-6 | National Gun Show...Bristow |
| Oct 4-9 | "The Bat" (Theatre Tulsa)...Tulsa |
| Oct 5 | Langston vs CSU (football)...Langston |
| Oct 5 | Czech Festival...Yukon |
| Oct 5 | OU vs Wake Forest (football)...Norman |
| Oct 5 | Art Festival...Frederick |
| Oct 5 | Old Fashioned Festival...Vinita |
| Oct 5-6 | Art Festival...Shattuck |
| Oct 5-6 | Pawnee Bill Memorial Roundup...Pawnee |
| Oct 7 | Okla City Symphony Counterpoint Series...Okla City |
| Oct 7-8 | Octoberfest-German Amer. Appreciation Day...Weatherford |
| Oct 7-12 | Loretto-Hilton Mime Co...Tulsa |
| Oct 10 | Oklahoma Historical Day...Salina |
| Oct 10-11 | Extension Homemakers Arts and Crafts Show...Okla City |
| Oct 11 | Oilers vs Omaha (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Oct 11 | Black American Music Concert...Okla City |
| Oct 11 | Prague Quartet (OCU)...Okla City |
| Oct 11 | Johnny Rodriquez Concert...Okla City |
| Oct 11-13 | Antique Show...Okla City |
| Oct 12 | Blazers vs Omaha (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Oct 12 | Green Country Band Festival...Henryetta |
| Oct 12 | Arabian Horse Show...Okla City |
| Oct 12 | CSU vs NWOSU (football)...Edmond |
| Oct 12 | TU vs Wichita St (football)...Tulsa |
| Oct 12-13 | Coin, Gun and Hobby Show...Woodward |
| Oct 13 | Rose Show...Okla City |
| Oct 13 | Oilers vs Denver (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Oct 13,15 | Pianist Jorge Bolet and Okla City Symphony...Okla City |
| Oct 14-16 | Loretto-Hilton Mime Co...Bartlesville |
| Oct 15 | Orchestra Concert (CSU)...Edmond |
| Oct 16 | Oilers vs Dallas (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Oct 17 | Okla City Symphony...Laverne |
| Oct 17 | Garden Club Flower Show...Ada |
| Oct 17 | Hornibeck & Webb Concert...Norman |
| Oct 17-19 | NWOSU Homecoming...Alva |
| Oct 17-19 | Loretto-Hilton Mime Co...Stillwater |
| Oct 18 | Oilers vs Salt Lake City (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Oct 18 | Blazers vs Denver (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Oct 18-20 | Indian Summer Arts Festival...Durant |
| Oct 18-20 | Arts and Crafts Show...Bixby |
| Oct. 18-20,25-27 | "Plaza Suite" (Community Playhouse)...Norman |
| Oct 19 | Blazers vs Salt Lake City (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Oct 19 | OSU vs Missouri (football)...Stillwater |
| Oct 19 | Okla City Symphony Pops Concert...Okla City |
| Oct 19 | Cameron vs CSU (football)...Lawton |
| Oct 19 | TU vs West Texas State (football)...Tulsa |
| Oct 19 | New Christy Minstrels...Ponca City |
| Oct 19-20 | SW Table Tennis Championship...Okla City |
| Oct 19-20 | Arts and Crafts Festival...Henryetta |
| Oct 19-20 | Indian Capital Coin Club Show...Muskogee |
| Oct 19-21 | Kiowa Veterans Day Pow Wow...Anadarko |
| Oct 19-Nov 17 | Indian Summer Foliage (Honor Heights)...Muskogee |
| Oct 20-23 | Indian Summer Fine Arts Festival...Durant |
| Oct 22 | Oilers vs Denver (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Oct 22 | Okla City Symphony...Shawnee |
| Oct 22-24 | Business and Industry Show (Myriad)...Okla City |
| Oct 24-26 | Loretto-Hilton Mime Co...Edmond |
| Oct 25 | Blazers vs Seattle (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Oct 25-26 | Cheese Festival (OSU)...Stillwater |
| Oct 26 | Oilers vs Seattle (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Oct 26 | SWOSU Homecoming...Weatherford |
| Oct 26 | OU vs Kansas State (football)...Norman |
| Oct 26 | Pianist Lila Kraus...Ponca City |
| Oct 26 | CSU vs E New Mexico (football)...Edmond |
| Oct 26 | "Don Juan in Hell" (Civic Center)...Okla City |
| Oct 26 | SEOSU vs NWOSU (football)...Durant |
| Oct 26-27 | Cactus & Dried Flower Arrangements...Okla City |
| Oct 26-27 | Rock and Mineral Show...Tulsa |
| Oct 27 | Appaloosa Horse Show...Okla City |
| Oct 27 | Exhibit of African Art...Okla City |
| Oct 27,29 | Okla City Symphony...Okla City |
| Oct 28-30 | Coon Hunters Assn...Ada |
| Oct 28-30 | Loretto-Hilton Mime Co...Alva |
| Oct 29 | Garden Club Forum (OSU)...Stillwater |
| Oct 29 | Oilers vs Salt Lake City (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Oct 30 | NW Dist Marching Band Contest...Alva |
| Oct 30-Nov 10 | "The Crucible" (Theatre Center)...Okla City |
| Oct 31 | Halloween Carnival...Wynnewood |
| Oct 31 | Halloween Carnival...Stigler |
| Oct 31-Nov 4 | "1776" (SEOSU)...Durant |
| Nov 1 | Blazers vs Fort Worth (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Nov 1 | Oilers vs Omaha (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Nov 1-2 | High School Speech Tournament (NWOSU)...Alva |
| Nov 1-3 | Indian Trade Fair...Duncan |
| Nov 2 | Happy Goodman Family Concert...Okla City |
| Nov 2 | Blazers vs Oilers (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Nov 2 | Hughes County Peanut Festival...Holdenville |
| Nov 2 | OSU vs Kansas (football-homecoming)...Stillwater |
| Nov 2 | CSU vs Panhandle (football-homecoming)...Edmond |
| Nov 2-3 | Indian Territory Gun Show...Tulsa |
| Nov 2-16 | Fall Foliage Tours...Muskogee |
| Nov 3 | Okla City Symphony Barbershop Concert...Okla City |
| Nov 3 | W. African Tribal Sculpture Exhibition...Okla City |
| Nov 4 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Blackwell |
| Nov 4 | Okla City Symphony Counterpoint Series...Okla City |
| Nov 4 | Will Rogers Day...Claremore |
| Nov 5 | Choral Concert (CSU)...Edmond |
| Nov 6 | Blazers vs Dallas (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Nov 6 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Sapulpa |
| Nov 6 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Tahlequah |
| Nov 7 | Okla City Symphony...Chickasha |
| Nov 7 | Guy Lombardo...Okla City |
| Nov 7 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Henryetta |
| Nov 7 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Bristow |
| Nov 7,9 | Madama Butterfly—Tulsa |
| Nov 8 | Oilers vs Fort Worth (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Nov 8 | African Dance Theatre...Okla City |
| Nov 8,10,15,17,22,24 | The Rainmaker (Jewel)...Okla City |
| Nov 8-9 | Arts and Crafts Fair...Newkirk |
| Nov 8-9 | Debate Tournament (CSU)...Edmond |
| Nov 9 | Thanksgiving Festival (OSU)...Stillwater |
| Nov 9 | TU vs New Mexico State (football-homecoming)...Tulsa |
| Nov 9 | SEOSU vs CSU (football)...Durant |
| Nov 9 | OU vs Missouri (football-homecoming)...Norman |
| Nov 9 | State Fed of Square Dance Clubs...Okla City |
| Nov 9 | Oilers vs Blazers (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Nov 9-11 | Kiowa Tia Piah Pow Wow...Carnegie |
| Nov 9-11 | Chrysanthemum Show...Okla City |
| Nov 9-Dec 29 | Planetarium Space Show...Okla City |
| Nov 10-12 | Carlos Chavez and Okla City Symphony...Okla City |
| Nov 11-16 | World Champion Appaloosa Horse Show...Okla City |
| Nov 12 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Ada |
| Nov 13 | Blazers vs Fort Worth (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Nov 13-14 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Norman |
| Nov 14 | Okla City Symphony...Elk City |
| Nov 14-17 | Kaleidoscope Production #1 (Theatre Center)...Okla City |
| Nov 14-17 | American Consumers Exposition (Myriad)...Okla City |
| Nov 15 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Chickasha |
| Nov 15 | Ethan Allen & Green Mt Boys...Lawton |
| Nov 15 | Jerry Jeff Walker Concert (Myriad)...Okla City |
| Nov 15 | Olaf Weighorst Art Exhibit...Okla City |
| Nov 15 | Oilers vs Salt Lake City (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Nov 15-16 | Arts and Crafts Festival...Ardmore |
| Nov 15-16 | Pecan and Peanut Show...Madill |
| Nov 15-30 | "I Do! I Do!" (Theatre Tulsa)...Tulsa |
| Nov 16 | Statehood Day...Okla City |
| Nov 16 | Pianists Ferrante and Teicher Concert...Okla City |
| Nov 16 | CSU vs NEOSU (football)...Edmond |
| Nov 16 | Bluegrass Festival...Woodward |
| Nov 16 | OSU vs Colorado (football)...Stillwater |
| Nov 16 | Oilers vs Seattle (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Nov 16 | Blazers vs Salt Lake City (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Nov 17 | Bob McGrath in Family Concert...Okla City |
| Nov 21-23 | "Write Me a Murder" (Little Theatre)...Bartlesville |
| Nov 21-23 | "The Good Soldier Schwick" (opera-OCU)...Okla City |
| Nov 21-24 | Okla College Theatre Festival...Okla City |
| Nov 22 | Blazers vs Denver (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Nov 22 | Wiley Post Day...Maysville |
| Nov 22 | Choral Festival (CSU)...Edmond |
| Nov 22 | Festival of Music...Okla City |
| Nov 22 | Oilers vs Dallas (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Nov 23 | Blazers vs Omaha (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Nov 23 | Christmas Parade...Bristow |
| Nov 23 | OSU vs Iowa State (football)...Stillwater |
| Nov 23 | SWOSU vs CSU (football)...Weatherford |
| Nov 24 | Longstreth and Escosa Concert...Laverne |
| Nov 24,26 | Theresa Treadway Carroll & Okla City Sym—Okla City |
| Nov 26 | Oilers vs Seattle (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Nov 26 | CSU vs Midwestern Univ (basketball)...Edmond |
| Nov 27 | Blazers vs Seattle (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Nov 28 | Oilers vs Blazers (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Nov 28-30 | State 4-H Club Congress...Okla City |
| Nov 29 | Big Four Basketball...Okla City |
| Nov 29-Dec 1 | Metropolitan Ballet...Okla City |
| Nov 30 | TU vs Houston (football)...Tulsa |
| Nov 30 | TU vs St Marys (basketball)...Tulsa |
| Nov 30 | OU vs OSU (football)...Norman |
| Nov 30 | OSU vs OCU (basketball)...Okla City |
| Nov 30 | Christmas Parade...Pryor |
| Nov 30 | Blazers vs Oilers (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Dec 1 | Christmas Pageant...Waynoka |
| Dec 1 | Jr Charity Horse Show...Okla City |
| Dec 1 | Christmas Parade...Frederick |
| Dec 2 | OU vs NE Missouri (basketball)...Norman |
| Dec 2 | OCU vs Texas Christian (basketball)...Okla City |
| Dec 2 | OSU vs Alabama (football)...Stillwater |
| Dec 3 | TU vs Univ of Mo, St Louis (basketball)...Tulsa |
| Dec 3 | OSU vs Athletes in Action (wrestling)...Stillwater |
| Dec 3 | Civic Ballet...Bartlesville |
| Dec 4 | Bazaar and Art Show...Clinton |
| Dec 4 | Band Clinic and Santa Claus Parade...Woodward |
| Dec 4-15 | "Stop the World" (Theatre Center)...Okla City |
| Dec 5 | OCU vs Baylor (basketball)...Okla City |
| Dec 5-6 | "Amahl and the Night Visitors" (NWOSU)...Alva |
| Dec 5-6 | Pontotoc County Pecan and Food Show...Ada |
| Dec 6 | Oilers vs Fort Worth (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Dec 7 | Oilers vs Salt Lake City (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Dec 7 | TU vs Houston Bapt (basketball)...Tulsa |
| Dec 7 | Madrigal Christmas Program (OCU)...Okla City |
| Dec 7 | OU vs So Carolina (basketball)...Norman |
| Dec 7 | Christmas Parade...Stigler |
| Dec 7 | Christmas Parade...Broken Arrow |
| Dec 7 | Happy Goodman Family Concert...Okla City |
| Dec 7-15 | National Finals Rodeo...Okla City |
| Dec 8 | Handel's Messiah (CSU)...Edmond |
| Dec 8 | Ceremony of Carols (OCU)...Okla City |
| Dec 8 | Jr Symphony Orchestra (OCU)...Okla City |
| Dec 8,10 | Okla City Symphony...Okla City |
| Dec 8-Jan 12 | Pottery by Montee Hoke...Okla City |
| Dec 8-Jan 12 | Gene Hartsell Exhibit...Okla City |
| Dec 9 | CSU vs Sam Houston (basketball)...Edmond |
| Dec 10-15 | Disney on Parade...Okla City |
| Dec 11 | Oilers vs Omaha (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Dec 12 | TU vs Arkansas St (basketball)...Tulsa |
| Dec 12,14 | Okla City Symphony...Okla City |
| Dec 13 | Santa Claus Parade...Waynoka |
| Dec 13 | Oilers vs Blazers (ice hockey)...Tulsa |
| Dec 13-14 | Ranger Classic Basketball Tournament (NWOSU)...Alva |
| Dec 13-15 | Indian Arts and Crafts Fair...Anadarko |
| Dec 14 | Doc Severinsen & Okla City Symphony...Okla City |
| Dec 14 | OU vs Furman (basketball)...Norman |
| Dec 14 | OBU vs CSU (basketball)...Shawnee |
| Dec 14 | OSU vs OU (wrestling)...Stillwater |
| Dec 14 | Christmas Parade...Crescent |
| Dec 15 | Handel's Messiah (OCU)...Okla City |
| Dec 16 | A Christmas Carol (Jewel Box)...Okla City |
| Dec 18 | Blazers vs Omaha (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Dec 19-22 | CSU Indoor Open (tennis)...Edmond |
| Dec 21 | OU vs Wichita St (basketball)...Norman |
| Dec 21 | Blazers vs Dallas (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Dec 23 | OCU vs Arkansas (basketball)...Okla City |
| Dec 25 | Blazers vs Oilers (ice hockey)...Okla City |
| Dec 26-29 | All College Basketball...Okla City |
| Dec 29 | Oilers vs Blazers (ice hockey)...Tulsa |

the oklahoma
environmental
information
and
media center

## ECO SYSTEMS

Environmental Education






**The decibel range of common household appliances, measured at a distance of three feet.**

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**Crossword Answer:**

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 E | V | A | P | O | R | A | T |
| U | | | E | | | I | |
| 8 T | H | E | R | M | A | L | |
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| O | | | 13 O | 14 N | | | 15 C |
| 17 P | O | L | L | U | T | I | O |
| H | | | 18 A | T | | | A |
| 19 I | N | | T | | | | 20 S |
| C | | 22 S | E | L | E | 24 C | T |
| A | | T | | A | | A | |
| 27 T | H | I | N | G | | N | |
| I | | L | | O | | 30 D | R |

## MICROFICHE COVER BROAD SCOPE OF POPULATION TOPICS

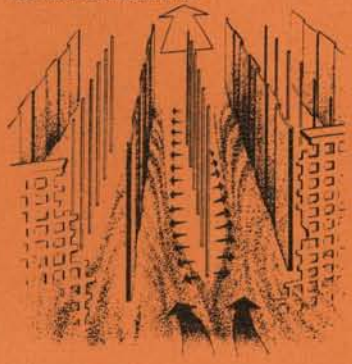
OEIMC now has more than 7,000 microfiche on environmental topics, including two sections on population. Selections from both are listed below. The first section is more technical in nature, the second is from the ERIC environmental education collection and is chiefly for use in grades 1-12. Copies of any of these articles or of their abstracts can be obtained from OEIMC at the duplicating cost of five cents a page.

Address any requests to: OEIMC
East Central State College
Ada, Oklahoma 74820

Be sure to include both the title of the article and its number.

13-72-02730—"Abortion, Population and The Birth Control Gap," Environmental Quality Magazine Jan. '72 V3 N1 P53
13-72-03610 "Additional Births Averted When Abortion Is Added to Contraception," Family Plan April. '72 V3 N4 P53 (6)
13-72-01213 "Aid Policies and The Flow of Aid," 3rd Annual Population Conference Paris Dec. 1-4, 1970 (227)
13-72-01215 "Attitudes on Population Explosion," Science Teacher Nov. 1971 V38 N8 P34 (4)
13-72-02667 "That Baby Busts: Is It Happening?" Environmental Action Jan. 8, 1972 V2 N16 P8 (1½)
13-72-06750 "Birth Expectations Data," June 1972 Current Population Reports Feb. 1972 V Series P-20 N232 (5)
13-72-07376 "Case For Applied Demography," Search Jun 1972 V3 N6 P217 (2½)
16-72-0244) "Challenge in Water Resource Planning," USDI Newsrelease Feb. 14, 1972
09-72-0207) "A Clinching Case For Open Space," Cry California
13-72-06359 "Population, American Future, Commission port," Family Plan Perspectives Apr '72 V4
57-72-06978 "Population Control, Not a Necessity in Wa: Water Spectrum Spring '72 V4 N1 P36 (6)
13-72-01810 "Population Control, Ultimate Necessity o ource Mgmnt.," Water Spectrum Winter '7 P19 (3)
04-72-01851 "Population Education In School Program Teacher Jan 1972 V39 N1 P7 (1½)
06-72-0487 "Population, Environ Conservation, A New Argument," U.N. Stockholm Conf. Jun 9, 1
13-72-03102 "The Population Factor," Search Oct. 19 P363 (6)
13-72-02535 "Population Statistics," ZPG National Report V4 N2 P15
13-72-06078 "Population Statistics, What Do They Mean? Profile Mar 1972 (9)
13-72-06743 "Population And The American Future, Study in Family Planning May 1972 V3 N
13-72-07370 "Population And Environment," IPPF Nev V Sup P1 (4)
13-72-00318 "Population And Vital Statistics Report," U Papers Jan 1, 1971 V32 Series A (27)
13-72-00318 "Population and Vital Statistics Report," U Papers Jan 1, 1971 V23 Series A (27)
13-72-01887 "Population and Vitasl Statistics Report," U Papers Jan 1, 1972 V Series A, V24 N1
05-72-07539 "A Primer on Crowding," Design & Enviro mer 1972 V3 N2 P26 (5)
08-72-06752 "Progress Report," May 17, 1972-Jun 21, for Voluntary Sterilization Newsrelease (1)
03-72-08534 "Recap US Energy Production and Projectis Needs," Aware Aug 1972 N23 P6 (4)
13-72-04599 "Shall We Reproduce I," Medical Ethics Fertilization," AMA Journ Jun 3, '72 V220
13-72-04600 "Shall We Reproduce (1), Rounders and I cost," AMA Journ Jun 12, '72 V220 N11 (
06-72-04689 "Some Possible Solutions," Food Technolog

ELECTROSTATIC PRECIPITATOR



JOHNNY HORIZON '76

# SEARCHERS

by J. Don Cook

Ada's East Central University has the only undergraduate school in environmental science in the state. Its OEIMC has the only information center of its kind in the United States, as witnessed by the grant it received in 1972 from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency for development as a pilot program.

OEIMC's "searchers" are environmental science students who look for specific information that may be requested by anyone in the state. Not only are they paid for the work they do, they are enhancing their background in their major field. They can receive up to four hours of college credit for their work.

In endeavoring to serve education, business and industry, government agencies, interest groups, and private citizens the staff of the center draws on every available source of information. The primary source is the center library, which stores everything from ecology research documents to children's books. Another source is East Central's Linscheid Library, and a third source is the library of the nearby Kerr Environmental Research Center, one of EPA's national laboratories.

A widely known activity of the center is the publication of ECO SYSTEMS, an environmental journal now going into its fifth volume. It was originally intended to be a teaching aid for state educators, and was sent at no cost to those who requested it. In-state and out-of-state requests have grown until it has become necessary to charge a subscription fee of $2 for an eight-issue volume.

Each issue features a major environmental concern, such as water, air, wildlife, energy, or population. Jeanette Cook, editor and manager of the center, foresees adding a "back-to-the-earth" section to the journal in the coming year. "The demand for this type of information is truly incredible," she says. "We've done dozens of information searches for people who want to grow organic gardens, or build methane generators, or windmills. And so we've had to increase our holdings in these subjects."

There is a continual flow of new materials into the center, but the fun is in opening the information requests. The students enjoy the challenge of what they call a "really good search." This type of request usually comes from someone familiar enough with environmental matters to know exactly what he wants and he hasn't been able to find it by the usual means. This calls for a thorough literature search through the center's collection of more than 13,000 microfiche, as well as shelf after shelf of hard copy. Another service of the center is the preparation of referral lists, for the center has many lists of experts in specific areas.

A "blunt pencil" request usually draws a good-natured groan from the searchers. This type of request comes from a well-meaning youngster who wants "everything you've got about the environment." There is so much available it's hard to know where to begin. Hopefully, the youngster has indicated his age or a specific project he's working on. A searcher will prepare a packet of free materials for him and mail it out the same day the request is received.

Once the youngster has received his packet he's usually so enthusiastic he passes the word on to his friends, who will then send in information requests. Marvin Boatright, a senior searcher, sent out so many of the Interior Department's *Johnny Horizon* brochures that someone got the idea that the fictitious ranger was alive and well at the center. Since that time much of Marvin's "blunt pencil" mail has come addressed to *Johnny Horizon*.

Another much requested packet at the center is the teacher's packet. Over the past two years this packet has changed almost daily, depending on available materials. The center has distributed more than 400 of these packets to state teachers.

Teachers can also check out books, films and filmstrips, slide sets, and games. Cathy Craig, a Moore sophomore, recently completed classifying the materials in the education section according to appropriate grade level and subject.

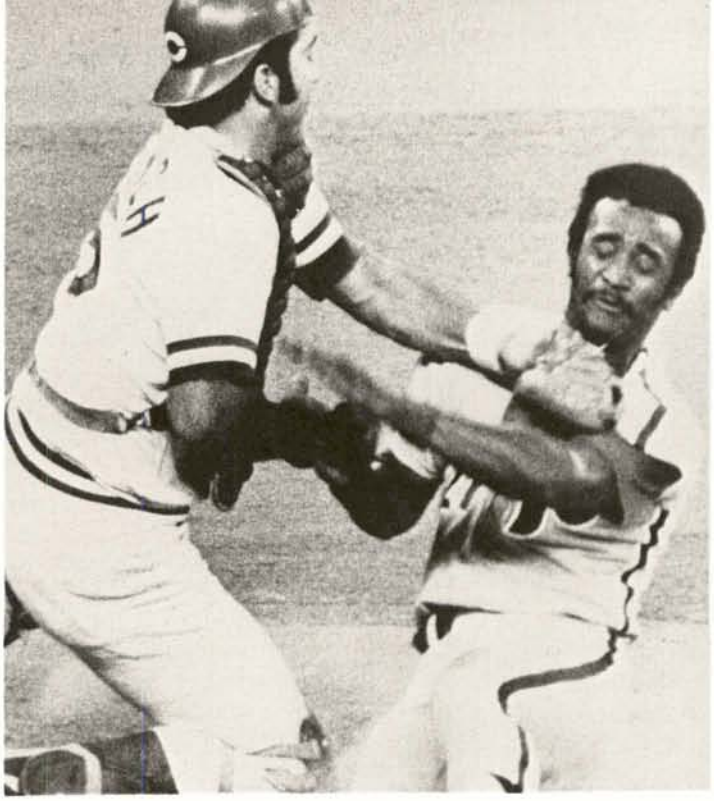
Other full-time staff members are Carolyn Hathcote, who catalogs and indexes new materials and supervises the searchers, and Buster Bass, a field representative. Bass travels over the state, visiting substate planning districts, state agencies, and local government officials. He secures copies of their new publications for the center and brings their information requests in for processing.

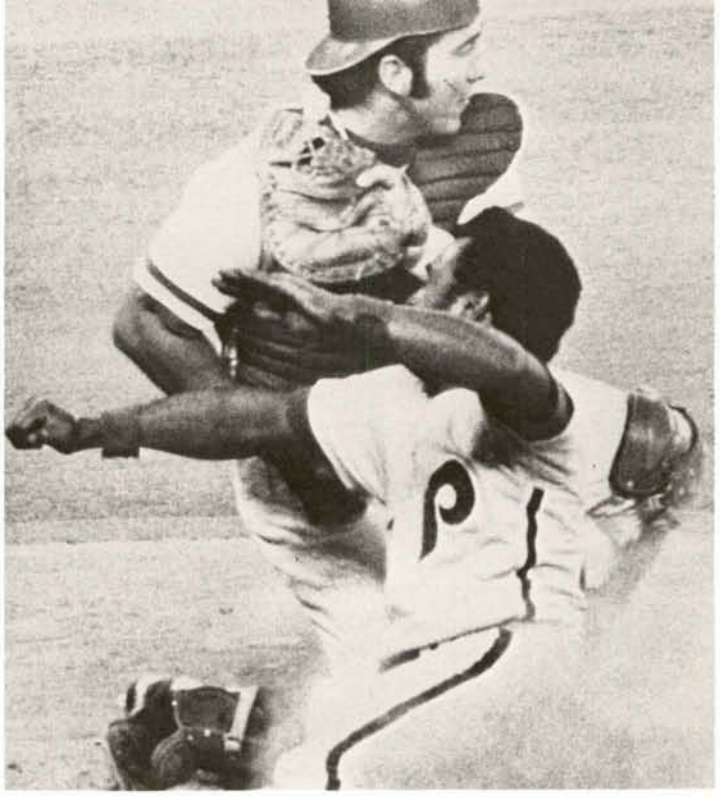
The center's director is Dr. Robert V. Garner, Dean of the School of Environmental and Health Sciences at East Central. Funding cutbacks for higher education were reflected in the center's budget this fiscal year, and staff members are trying to get supplemental funding from other sources. Even with budget problems, the demand for the center's services has tripled, and work goes on.

The searchers are even considering "adopting" a mascot for the center. The leading contender is Oklahoma's endangered black-footed ferret.

Why?

According to the searchers, it's because they "ferret out" information.





Johnny Bench tags Philadelphia's Montañez at the plate.

# Oklahoma Baseball Stars in the World

There is hardly a position on the baseball diamond that has not been played at one time or other by an Oklahoman in the World Series.

The brothers combinations of Paul and Lloyd Waner and Dizzy and Paul Dean were among the greatest of all time. Play-for-fun types like Pepper Martin and the Deans contrast with quiet perfectionists like Allie Reynolds, Carl Hubbell, and Warren Spahn.

As long as Oklahoma sandlots are busy with youngsters from early spring to late autumn we can be assured of Oklahomans in World Series to come. The Waners, who were to star for years in Pittsburgh flannels, often played schoolboy baseball against Hubbell, the Waners being from Harrah and Hubbell from nearby Meeker.

Paul Waner went to the *Pirates* in 1925. He kept telling the Pittsburgh front office that his brother in Oklahoma was a better player than he was. So two years later, in 1927, Lloyd joined the *Pirates*. He hit .355 in 160 games, and finished his career with a .316 lifetime average.

In the 17 years Paul was in the majors, he averaged .333, with his best year in 1927 with a .380 average. Both Paul and Lloyd are members of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Do you remember when they called Allie Reynolds the "Super Chief?" This Bethany mound star beat Brooklyn in the 1947 Series. A year later he stopped the *Dodgers* with a brilliant two-hitter shutout. The next Series he halted the Philadelphia *Phillies* Whiz Kids 4-0 and 2-1.

One of the greatest hitters to come out of OU was Dale Mitchell, from Colony. He slugged a .500 average his senior year, then played a season with Oklahoma City's *Indians* before being sold to Cleveland.

Mitch was in three World Series. In 1948 Cleveland and Boston wound up the season in a tie. Mitchell helped the *Indians* beat the *Red Sox* 8-3. In the Series, Cleveland thumped the Boston *Braves* 4-2 for the Championship. Mitchell was also in the 1954 Series when Cleveland lost to the *Giants*, and completed his baseball career with Brooklyn.

Warren Spahn

Allie Reynolds

Lloyd Waner

Hubbell, presently director of the *Giant* farm system, played with the New York *Giants* from 1928 to 1943. In the 1933 World Series he beat the Washington *Senators* 4-2 and 2-1.

The red, white and blue bunting of the World Series was around New York's Polo Grounds in 1936. Hubbell had finished off the season with 16 straight victories, and opened the Series with a 6-1 victory over the New York *Yankees*.

Warren Spahn is a Hartshorne rancher. The strong southpaw appeared in three World Series, the first against Cleveland. The *Indians* beat the *Braves* and, during that six-game Series, the largest crowd in baseball history was recorded when 86,288 fans poured into Cleveland's Municipal Stadium.

In 1957, Spahn joined Lew Burdette to pace the *Braves* to the Pennant. Spahn won the Series game, a 10-inning 7-5 barn-burner which Eddie Matthews decided with a one-on homer. Spahn's other autumn classic appearance came the following year when he beat the *Yankees* 3-1 in a jammed Yankee Stadium. He picked up his next Series win with a 7-5 victory, scattering 11 hits.

Powerful, switch-hitting Mickey Mantle was recently inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. His records are plentiful, such as hitting 16 homeruns in the Series, beating the record of nine set by Babe Ruth. He was the first Oklahoman to be paid $100,000 a year to play baseball. His diamond career began, like many, with a scout seeing him in a small town game.

"I was playing ball in Baxter Springs one night," the Commerce native recalled, "and Yankee scout Tom Greenway saw me. I hit three homeruns that night and he signed me for $1,500, which was good money in those days."

To make an even stronger Oklahoma relationship, Mantle feels that Spahn was the toughest pitcher he ever faced. Mantle also feels that milking 16 cows every day, and swinging a sledge hammer in a mine, gave him the terrific strength in his wrists and arms.

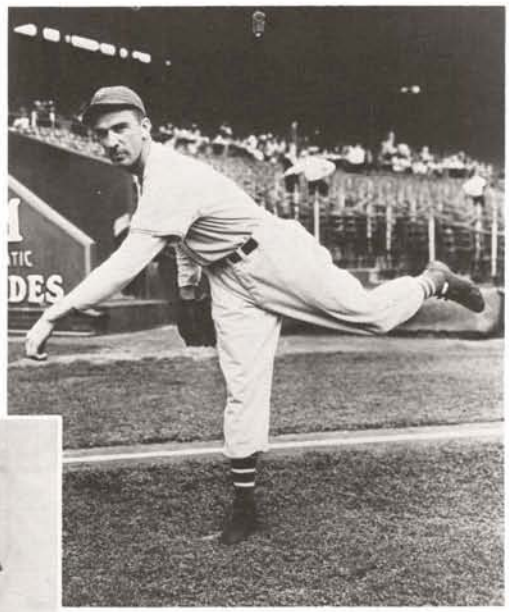
Another of the All-Time Greats from Oklahoma was John "Pepper" Martin. Nicknamed "The Wild Horse of the Osage" Martin was born in Temple, in Cotton County.

He fit well into the pattern of the rambunctious St. Louis *Cardinals* "Gashouse Gang" of the early '30s. The brash rookie from Oklahoma ran wild in the 1931 World Series when the *Cards* met Connie Mack and the Philadelphia *Athletics*. Martin batted .500, hit a homer, four doubles, seven singles, scored five runs, and five RBI's.

Martin's teammate, Dizzy Dean's pitching record in the World Series was brief, but sensational. He and brother Paul teamed to destroy the Detroit *Tigers* in 1934, when Dizzy had a 2-1 mark and Daffy a 2-0 total.

# Series

**by Hugh Scott**



Carl Hubbell

Dale Mitchell

The flamboyant career of Dizzy started downhill in the major league All-Star Game of 1937. With President Franklin D. Roosevelt looking on, Dean was on the mound for the National League. Cleveland's Earl Averill smashed a ball back to the pitcher's mound and broke one of Dean's toes. As a result, Dean had to change his pitching style. This injured the deltoid muscle in his pitching arm. He was later sold to the Chicago *Cubs* for $185,000.

In 1938, Dean's last brilliance came in the World Series against the New York *Yankees*. He held them at bay for seven innings, but two-run homers, by Joe DiMaggio and Frank Crosetti, removed him from the mound.

The Deans lived near Holdenville as the boys were growing up. The family didn't have much money during the depression.

"We'd hunt squirrels in the woods by throwing rocks at them. Our dad used to tell us to throw left-handed so we wouldn't tear up the meat so bad," Diz used to say.

Binger's Johnny Bench gets better every year. He has been selected Most Valuable Player in the National League twice. In 1970 he hit 45 homeruns and drove in 148 runs to become the youngest player ever to receive the MVP award. Two years later, with 40 homeruns and 125 RBI's he won his second MVP title.

Bench has won a spot on the National League All-Star team five times. This year, when the fans votes for team members were counted, he had garnered the largest total of all, 1.5 million votes.

A year ago he won his fifth Golden Glove Award, as the best defensive catcher in the league. He is the only catcher to win more than three Golden Gloves in a row.

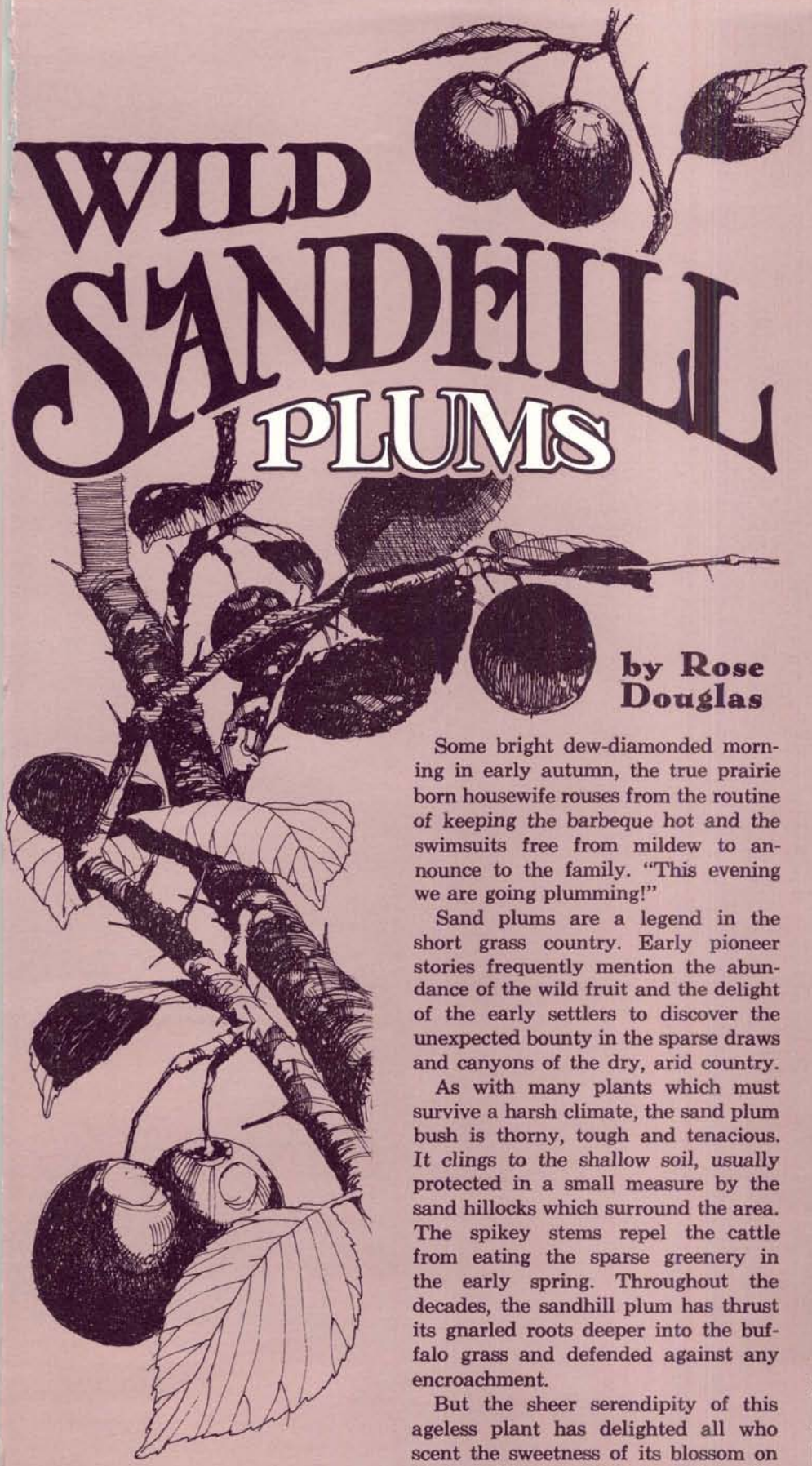
Alvin Dark, of Comanche, played in three World Series, and is now manager of the Oakland *Athletics*.

We have run out of space for yarn spinning, but here are more Oklahomans who have starred in the World Series: Jessie Barnes, Guthrie; Al Benton, Noble; Alpha Brazel, Loyal; Gene Conley, Muskogee; Joe Dobson, Durant; George Foster, Lehigh; Bob Muncrief, Madill; Ralph Terry, Big Cabin; Tom Turner, Custer; Roy Johnson, Spavinaw; Jim Thorpe, Prague; Harry Breecheen, Broken Bow; Wilcey Moore, Hollis; and from Oklahoma City, Frank Kellert, Bobby Morgan and Hank Thompson.

If you can think of others, please drop us a note and let us know. And if you know a yarn about the Series in which they played, share it with us.

# World Series

# WILD SANDHILL PLUMS



**by Rose Douglas**

Some bright dew-diamonded morning in early autumn, the true prairie born housewife rouses from the routine of keeping the barbeque hot and the swimsuits free from mildew to announce to the family. "This evening we are going plumming!"

Sand plums are a legend in the short grass country. Early pioneer stories frequently mention the abundance of the wild fruit and the delight of the early settlers to discover the unexpected bounty in the sparse draws and canyons of the dry, arid country.

As with many plants which must survive a harsh climate, the sand plum bush is thorny, tough and tenacious. It clings to the shallow soil, usually protected in a small measure by the sand hillocks which surround the area. The spikey stems repel the cattle from eating the sparse greenery in the early spring. Throughout the decades, the sandhill plum has thrust its gnarled roots deeper into the buffalo grass and defended against any encroachment.

But the sheer serendipity of this ageless plant has delighted all who scent the sweetness of its blossom on that sparkling spring day when the prairie mixes an elixir of blooming sand plums with bluets, wild gaillardia and sage, stirs up the essence with the spoon of the southwest breeze, seasons with sun and tosses the aroma into the air for every prairie lover to enjoy. When this comes to pass, everyone knows that spring has arrived.

But this plant has more surprises in store. Along in August, the fruit begins to ripen. Juicy, tart, seedy, red plums hang heavy in the thorny patch and picking plums becomes a family diversion. Ranchers drive across the pastures to look after the cattle and come in with a bucket of plums that they just "ran across." Town people invade the patches to fill up containers with the ripened bounty. Kids eat their fill and the birds feast. The sandhill plum has once again fulfilled its destiny.

It was the only reliable fruit which the early homesteaders could depend upon. Old stories tell of making a product called "plum leather." This was a process in which the fruit was seeded and boiled with sugar into a very thick mixture. Poured into flat pans, it sundried into thick slabs. When sweets were needed, this product was reconstituted by adding water and reheating to a type of marmalade preserve. Later, as Mason jars became common, the pioneer housewife canned the fruit and made jam and jelly as the family required. The fruit is quite acid and canning is simple. Clean plums and a small amount of water, all brought to a rolling boil and canned immediately will keep for years. Many modern homemakers now freeze the plums.

The jelly is a gourmet delight. It is delicately red, sparkles in the sunlight and tantalizes with a hint of wild plum blossom which lingers in the unique, tart sweet flavor. The jam also has a rich, red, mellow quality.

So early autumn will again bring the harvest of tangy fruit. The thickets will ring with the shouts of those who brave the thorns to gather the treat. These are the knowing souls who are looking forward to that winter morning when the liberally buttered biscuits or hotcakes will be crowned with the fruit of their labor. That beautiful, shimmering, rosy-red delicacy. Wild sand plum jelly. Kings never had it so good!

# The Tomb at Santa Domingo

by Bill Burchardt

Occasionally history produces a man of heroic stature whose deeds tend to disappear into the mists. Such a man is Francisco Vázquez de Coronado. His achievement was herculean. His recognition has been minimal.

Vázquez de Coronado explored and opened for future settlement the whole vast area of northern Sinaloa and Sonora in Mexico and the entire U.S. Southwest — Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. He undertook this when he was only 30 years old.

This talented young man kept careful and complete records of his journey of exploration. Long, both in time, covering almost three years, and in distance, extending beyond 6000 miles, it was equivalent to the epic explorations of Lewis and Clark, Daniel Boone, or any of the frontiersmen we recognize for valiance.

Vázquez de Coronado lies buried in an unmarked grave in México City. Many of the records he so carefully kept have been lost. Some of these lost documents probably still exist in the archives of Spain, México, or elsewhere.

We recently traveled to México, seeking to begin a reconstruction of Francisco Vázquez de Coronado as a person, a man who lived, and whose work deserves a greater memorial than it has been accorded.

Much that is not true has been published, and republished, about Vázquez de Coronado. We have read that he was rich, pampered, and motivated by unquenchable greed: that strayed and runaway animals from his column founded herds of wild horses, sheep, goats, and pigs on the western plains: that his expedition was a real flop: that he wandered through many of

our counties: that on returning to México he was in such disgrace that he never recovered his former position: that his voluptuous young wife had found another husband during his absence.

These things simply are not true. Affluent by the standard of his time, he certainly was not pampered. His stern self-discipline kept his expedition in control throughout. It is a tribute to his strong leadership that in spite of their failure to find gold he returned his expedition to México without mutiny or rebellion, in good order.

He was no more greedy than other explorers. Virtually all frontiersmen were motivated by the desire to enhance their material wealth. His expedition was not composed of "swaggering invaders." It was composed of young men, hard pressed to sustain their lives in a hard and alien environment. Several were no more than teenage boys. Many of the Indian men and some of the mature Spaniards in the expedition were accompanied by their wives and families.

The large herds of livestock with the column were carefully herded. Among the 559 horses were few, probably only two, mares. These did not escape to start herds of wild horses on our western desert. All animals were well and consistently accounted for. Sheep were often individually carried across streams. These animals were brought for food, or for transportation, not to be lost or dispersed.

Vázquez de Coronado crossed our panhandle. Several of the Indian people with him were from Tlaxcala—now our partner state in the Partners of the Americas organization. From the expedition, three friars, the Portuguese soldier Andres Do Campo, and several lay brothers called *Donados,* remained in Kansas. Do Campo and two of the Indian *Donados,* Lucas and Sebastian, later returned to México, striking out directly south across central Oklahoma and Texas in an epic walk similar to the feat of Cabeza de Vaca.

The inevitable charges that followed all such expeditions were tried before the Royal Audencia of México, headed by that nation's outstanding first Viceroy, Antonio de Mendoza. Vázquez de Coronado's decisions and leadership were fully sustained. He served two more years as Governor of Nueva Galicia, the position he had held before undertaking the expedition.

In 1554, ten years after his return, Isabel, daughter of Don Francisco Vázquez de Coronado and his wife Doña Beatríz, was betrothed to Bernaldino de Bocanegra. We would be interested to know if Bernaldino and Isabel had children—if there are descendants of Vázquez de Coronado living today.

Don Francisco's health failed rapidly after his return to New Spain (México). He never fully recovered from a head wound received on the expedition, and on Saturday, September 22, 1554, Don Francisco Vázquez de Coronado died. He was only 44 years old.

We[1] went to México this summer determined to find the place where he is buried. It was an interesting quest. We had read that he is buried in México City, in the Church of Santo Domingo.

So to the old Plaza Santo Domingo we went. The church there is ancient in appearance. As you approach you are confronted with the broad old plaza of dark stone and adobes. It teems with people. Beneath its *arcos* public stenographers sit writing the letters of those who cannot write. Shawled *ancianas* stand huddled, waiting. Across the *calle* filled with modern autos stands the building of the Inquisition, a place of another time.

The sculptured face of the Church of Santo Domingo looms high against the luminous east rising sun. We entered silently, quietly respectful of kneeling parishioners, and made our way through gloomy *capillas,* reading the burial stones in each small chapel. There is no indication anywhere of *los restos de Vázquez de Coronado.* After more than an hour of careful searching we returned to the nave to question the Spanish lady who sells religious relics there. She had never heard of him.

We asked an aged parishioner who had paused in her prayers. She suggested the priests' house. So we walked beside the church, down the long *callejon* lined with *puestos,* of antique hand printing presses which will print for you a business card or notice, past a shoeshine vendor preparing for the day's business, past a venerable news butcher offering *diarios.* When we reached the ancient portal of the priests' house we sounded the entry bell beside carved wood panels.

A stooped and silent *portero* answered and heard our petition. We were admitted to the stark silence of a vast, austere 17th century entry portico. We waited. The time worn stone of an ascending staircase, knotty hand hewn chairs, the hall antique with varnish, is a place of obsolete season, European, old-world. The only priest presently in the house came passing through on the way to his chambers.

The *portero* had told us this priest is celebrating his eightieth year. He, too, is as worn and old as a frayed garment. He had no answer for us and could only suggest to us a sacristan, who might arrive *a la una,* at the time to say mass.

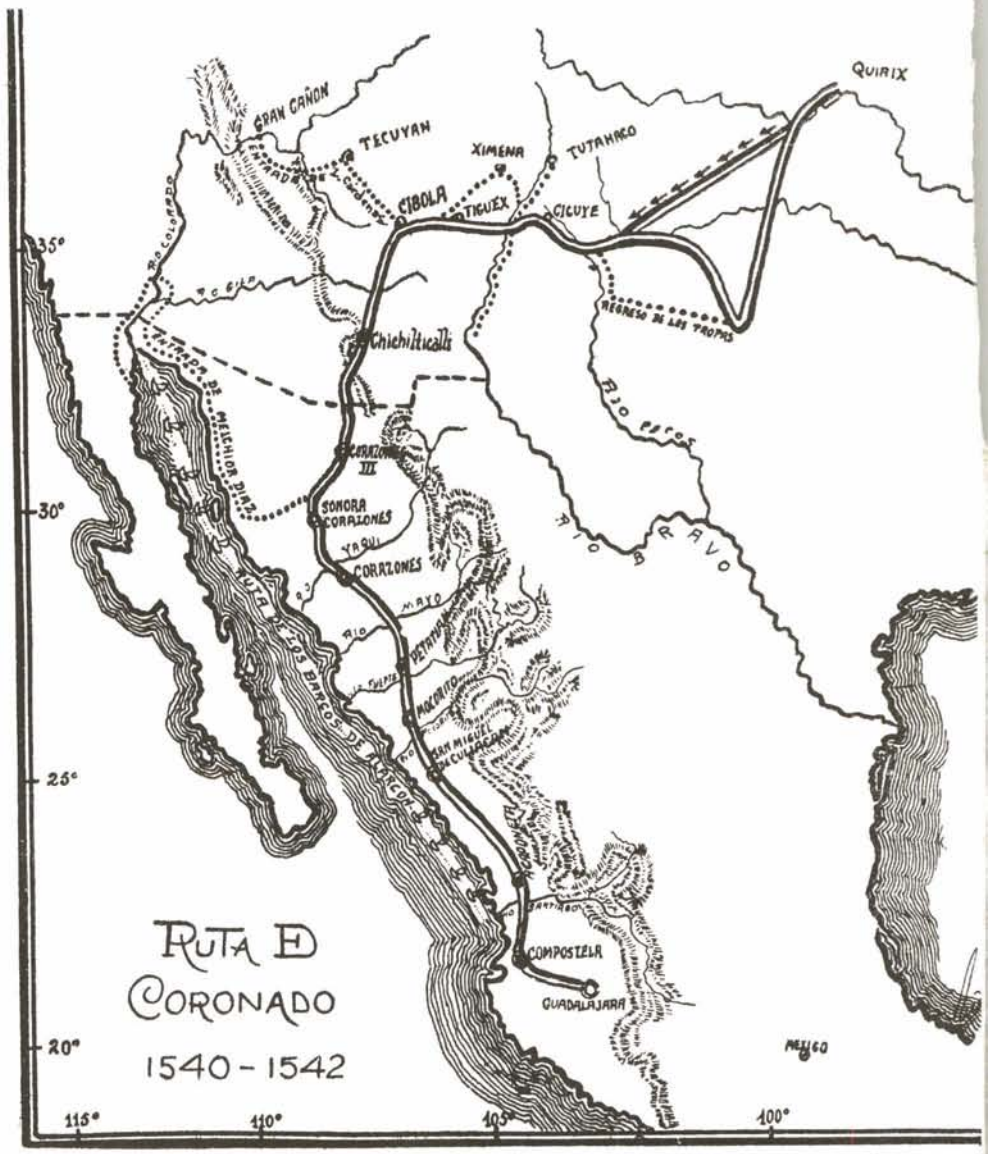
The *portero* unlocked for us, beneath the staircase, a small closet containing a telephone. We telephoned the Instituto Mexicano Norteamericano and asked for Dr. Robert B. Young, who had a day earlier mentioned to us that he had seen the tomb. Dr. Young, in a meeting, was unavailable. His secretary suggested that we call Mexican historian Felipe Garcia Beraza. This we did, and reaching him, were rewarded. He told us that the tomb is in the *capilla de la cruz.*

We returned now to the church, only to be again confused. Three of the small *capillas* (chapels) contained crucifixion tableaux. Any of these three could be the *capilla de la cruz,* and no one in the church knew which *capilla* specifically bore that name. We went on to the sacristy. This lofty anteroom, with tinted light streaming down from high stained glass windows, was empty. No sacristan. In whispered conference, we concluded the time had come to seek documentary evidence.

So we left the church and walked the several blocks to the *Hemeroteca Nacional,* México's official repository of periodical documents. There we sought the *directora,* Maestra Maria del Carmen Ruiz Castañeda. This kindly lady had received a letter we

[1] Dr. Clara Chávez Burchardt and the author.

Old Spanish map of the Vázquez de Coronado expedition, courtesy the Hemeroteca Nacional, México City.




# The Tomb at Santa Domingo

had written to her months earlier and had waiting for us the document we needed. It is the *Memoria de la Academia Nacional de Historia Geografía, año sexto segunda epoca; por el Academico Sr. Alfonso Guerra.*

In it, we read; *"En la sesion del Cabildo . . . que tuvo lugar el 2 de noviembre de 1554 . . . se dió cuenta del fallecimiento del don Francisco Vázquez de Coronado, quien dejó de existir a la edad de 44 años, siendo depositados sus restos en la cripta de los parientes de su esposa . . . que se encontraba ubicada debajo del Altar del Cruxifijo, al lado izquierdo del Altar Mayor de la vetusta Iglesia de Santo Domingo de esta metrópoli."*[1]

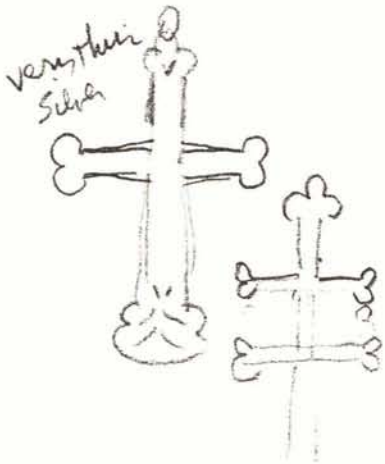
So we returned to the church.

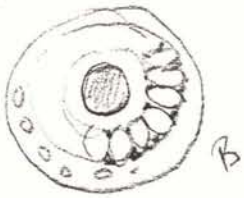
This time rather than the "Chapel of the Crucifixion," we sought the "Altar of the Crucifixion." In the Church of Santo Domingo, the Altar of the Crucifixion is unmistakeable. Its sculptured grandeur towers from the floor to the vaulted ceiling of the great cathedral, and it is immediately to the left of the church's *Altar Mayor*. Fittingly on the west, at the front, and at its zenith, is the crucifix symbolizing the crucified Christ.

Beneath its altar lie the bones of Francisco Vázquez de Coronado. There, at the site, there is no marker. In 1554 this church of Santo Domingo had not yet been built. There was a *campo santo,* a burial ground, here, and the ancient name of the street approaching it was *Calle de los Sepulcros de Santo Domingo.*

The crypt of the family of Doña Beatríz, wife of Vázquez de Coronado, was one of the *sepulcros* here, and when the church of Santo Domingo was built, it happened that the Altar of the Crucifixion was built directly above the sepulchre in which Vázquez de Coronado is buried. The picture on page 34 is almost certainly the first photograph ever published of the site where Don Francisco Vázquez de Coronado is buried.

1 "In the session of the Cabildo . . . which took place the 2nd of November, 1554 . . . was related the death of Don Francisco Vázquez de Coronado, who left this life at the age of 44 years, his remains being deposited in the crypt of the family of his wife . . . which is situated beneath the Altar of the Crucifixion, at the left side of the main altar of the ancient church of Santo Domingo of this city."





Before the coming of the New Year the installation in our Capitol of four magnificent new murals by Charles Banks Wilson will have begun. In concept, in execution, in the scope of their dramatic narrative, these new murals will rank among the world's finest.

Three are now completed. Charles Banks Wilson is completing the fourth, in his studio in Miami, Oklahoma.

The murals treat with 250 years of our history: from Spanish Exploration to the Land Runs which opened Oklahoma. Portions of two of the murals are pictured here and on page 37. These huge murals will occupy the domed area above the fourth floor rotunda of our Capitol Building. Already located there are Wilson's heroic portraits of Will Rogers, Robert Kerr, Jim Thorpe, and Sequoyah.

The portion of the mural on page 37 is dominated by our first European contact, the expedition of Vazquez de Coronado in 1541. *Cibola* (bison), for whom the "seven cities" were named, precede the Spanish explorers. Against a background of Wichita grass lodges tribesmen confer with a French trader who has come to speak of furs. Beyond our photo is the Portuguese adventurer Andres Do Campo and the Indian donados Sebastian and Lucas who crossed central-southwestern Oklahoma in 1542.

The variety of Oklahoma terrain is pictured. On the previous page are great maroon and gypsum cliffs like those which border the salt Cimarron between Freedom and Buffalo. To the left are those ancient landmarks, the Antelope Hills. On the facing page 39 we see an eastern Oklahoma setting, verdant with trees, against which are depicted things significant to the arrival of the Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, and Seminole people.

Indian confronts Indian as Plains tribesmen challenge their arrival. The U. S. forts erected and the army's mission in preventing these inter-tribal struggles is suggested. Every human figure in these murals has one or more living models. Wilson's research reached into every historic aspect across this continent and into Europe. Thousands of sketches, large and small, preceded his painting. After preliminary sketching he made three dimensional models of each mural, perspective and lighting studies, and more sketches.

Truly monumental works, the size and shape of the murals prevents our reproduction of them in entirety. We show you these portions just to make you eager to see the entire production *in situ*. Your local newspaper, radio and television news, will inform you when the giant murals are in place and ready for viewing.

Our next issue of *Oklahoma Today* will inform you of progress. Plan to drive to the Capitol later this winter after the murals are installed and see for yourself.

# OKLAHOMA TODAY

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IT IS THE PURPOSE OF OKLAHOMA TODAY TO DEVOTE ITSELF TO THE ENTIRE STATE OF OKLAHOMA AND ITS EVERY POSITIVE ASPECT; ITS SCENERY; CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL, AND VISITOR ATTRACTING EVENTS; ITS INDUSTRY; NATURAL AND MAN-MADE WONDERS; ITS ACHIEVEMENTS; ITS HERITAGE; ITS PRESENT; AND ITS FUTURE.


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Oklahoma Press Association
All I know is what I read in the papers—Will Rogers


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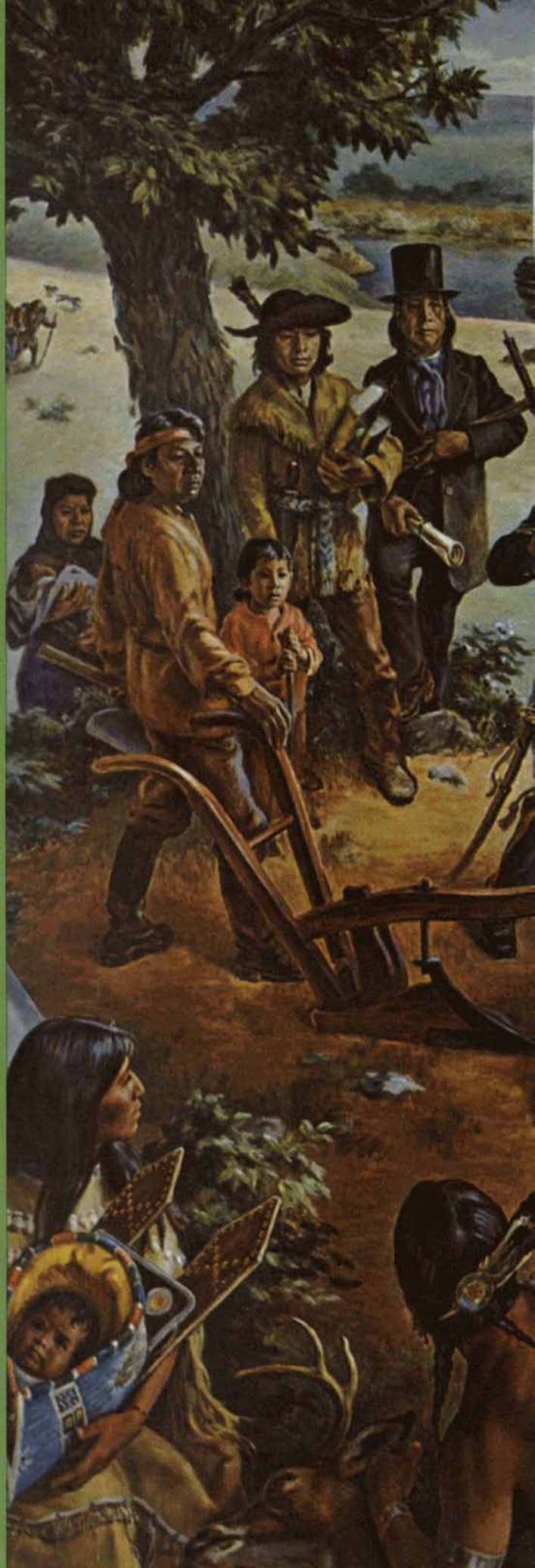
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